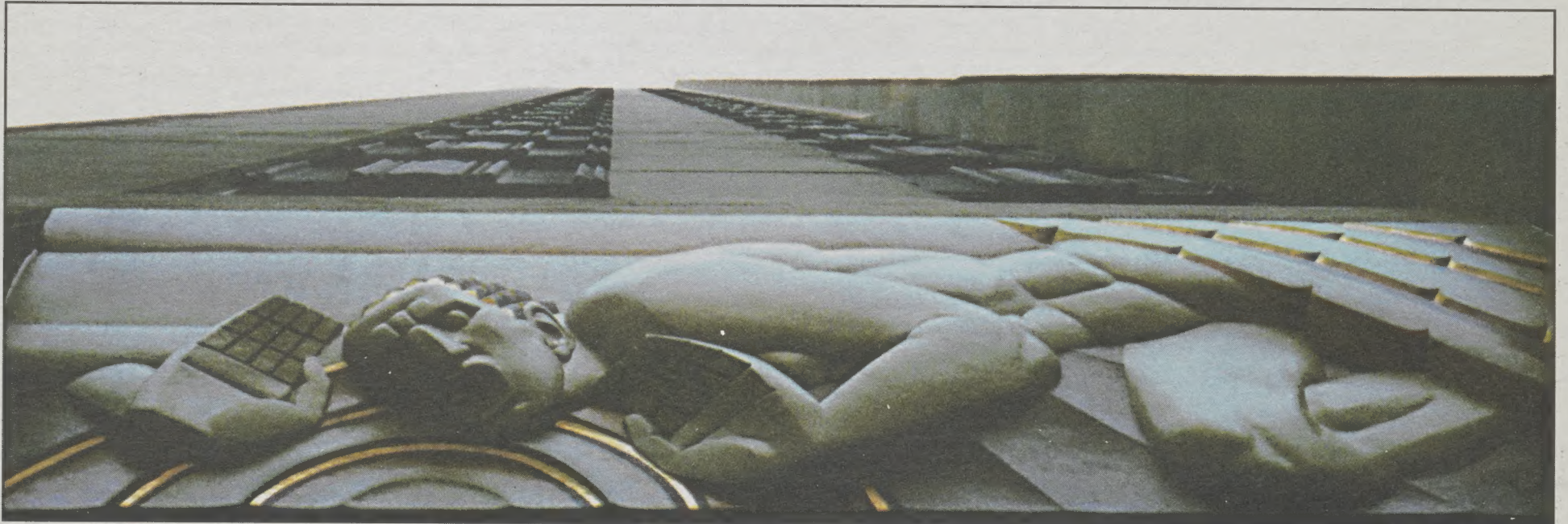


# THE GATEWAY

Volume XCI Number 23

Thursday, 29 November, 2001

<http://www.su.ualberta.ca/gateway/>



Dave Alexander / THE GATEWAY

Start spreading the news: a feature on the better times in one of the world's great cities. Easier to navigate than the Lincoln Tunnel in rush hour, check out New York City on page 15.

## University planners say no to downtown

North Garneau community to be avoided, more south campus development in revised U of A expansion plans

Jhenifer Pabillano  
News Editor

The second draft of the U of A expansion plans was unveiled at an open house at Foote Field Tuesday night.

More than 400 people were in attendance at the event to view the new plans and discuss their concerns with U of A officials. Described as the U of A's "preferred option," the University hopes these plans will accommodate pro-

jected campus growth over the next 30 years.

The revised plans propose more facilities packed into the main north campus and greater development of the south campus surrounding the University farm. The plans also eased fears of the Garneau community by limiting eastward expansion to undeveloped properties already owned by the University.

But the University described the option of downtown expansion as unfeasible for long range growth

planning. Julian Martin, chair of the Long Range Development Plan Steering Committee, said splitting up campus would affect its cultural atmosphere.

"We have three campuses as we speak, and we're acutely aware how difficult that makes our ability to achieve our goal of a culturally cohesive community," said Martin. "One problem about going downtown is precisely that it would open up yet another flank. It would be imprudent of us to make ourselves more vulnerable than we are at

this time."

Jim Mitchell, University Vice-President (Facilities and Operations), said that downtown expansion was also not wanted by students. "The moving of students across an LRT, walking down deserted streets in Edmonton is not desirable for students. The Students' Union has come straight out and said, 'We're not interested in a downtown campus or a downtown residence.'"

But moving expansion to the south campus raised its own issues,

especially transportation concerns. However, as the City plans to extend the LRT to Heritage Mall in ten years, Martin said the University is currently working with the City to discuss how the LRT can help serve the extended campus as both develop. Under current negotiation is a U of A request for the south LRT tracks to be moved further west behind the School for the Deaf on 113 Street. Present LRT projections have the LRT in front of the School for the Deaf.

PLEASE SEE "EXPANSION" ON PAGE 4

## U of A student leaders propose nationwide education program

Andra Olson  
News Editor

Student leaders from the U of A presented a nationwide education proposal to provincial and federal governments this past month.

Meeting in Ottawa with federal leaders, and in Alberta with Premier Ralph Klein, Graduate Students' Association President Brad Wuetherick and Students' Union President Chris Samuel proposed a Pan-Canadian Accord on Post-Secondary Education, along with other educational issues.

A brainchild of the SU, the accord would join provinces together under a federal agreement by outlining guidelines that would ensure the best education for post-secondary students.

Specific expectations would be defined by provinces, and extra funding would be provided by the federal government to ensure equality throughout the country. The idea has been openly supported by University administration.

The accord mimics a similar healthcare agreement made last year. At the last Premiers' Conference, a Pan-Canadian

Accord on Healthcare was supported by all provinces and now exists to serve provincial healthcare needs.

Wuetherick said that although a federal funding increase would be preferred, this would not happen as education is constitutionally a provincial concern. "That's why we are pushing the Pan-Canadian Accord idea, because then provinces follow through with certain principles, and the federal government gives money specifically for education. They might fund a program to help the indirect costs of research, deferred maintenance, like one-time infrastructure funding."

After meeting with Ralph Klein last Thursday, Samuel said the premier showed strong support for the idea. The SU president said Klein was the champion of the healthcare accord during last year's Premiers' Conference and could understand the logic behind such an agreement for education.

"We presented the idea to the premier saying what we want to achieve in the post-secondary sector has already been achieved in the health sector," said Samuel.

PLEASE SEE "ACCORD" ON PAGE 3



Today

6-11 Six bloody pages of opinion. Read it and weep. Weep already!

Quote for the day

Freedom of the press is guaranteed only to those who own one.

— AJ Liebling

This day in the Gateway's history

Dwight Yoakam made his mark on eager fans during a visit to the Agricom. Yoakam looked fancy in his "vacuum fitted leather pants" but the six white plywood-cacti onstage took away from the show.

1988

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Sorry kids. 'Tis vacation time. This is the last real paper until January. Watch out for crazy time on Tuesday, though.

## Athletics \$1.5 million in debt

Collin Gallant  
Sports Editor

Today, the University of Alberta athletics department will present a five-year business plan to senior administration, which includes plans to address the \$1.5 million debt the program has accumulated over the last five years.

The plan will ask for funds from the University's core reserves to supplement athletics and recreation revenue. According to athlet-

ics officials, regular revenue has lagged behind demand creating increasingly large deficits for the past five years.

"We offer the best Athletics program in Canada and that costs money. It's my job to resolve that," said Dean of Physical Education Mike Mahon who will present the plan to the University's four vice-presidents. In accordance with the University's strategic planning initiative, all departments must present a five-year plan.

PLEASE SEE "ATHLETICS" ON PAGE 12

## Website provides TA help

Andra Olson  
News Editor

At this time of year, most students would welcome any help for last minute assignments. But as a final push is made to grasp course concepts and finish papers, they may find themselves battling for the time of professors and TAs.

Ridethebellcurve.com is a new online service designed to help.

"As a student I became aware of the limited resources available for help at the undergraduate level. Professors with classes of 500 don't have the time every week to address the individual questions of

each student," said creator Grant Goodwin.

With his website, Goodwin sought to give undergrads help 24 hours a day regardless of faculty or type of academic problem.

After signing on, undergrads post questions they have with schoolwork, from mathematic equations to revising term papers.

Graduate students that have been reviewed and hired based on their own academic merit are then allowed to choose problems most specific to their area of expertise, and provide solutions or suggestions.

PLEASE SEE "BELL CURVE" ON PAGE 4



# THE GATEWAY

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The Gateway is created using Apple Macintosh Computers, Hewlett-Packard ScanJet 3c and Umax Astra 600S flatbed scanners, and a Canon CanoScan 4000N optical film scanner. Adobe InDesign is used for layout. Adobe Illustrator is used for vector images while Adobe Photoshop is used for raster images. Adobe Acrobat is used to create PDF files which are burned directly to plates to be mounted on the printing press. The Gateway's games of choice are Dave Dobson's marvelous Snood, and Sid Meier's Civilization II Gold.

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# Universities need billions for repair, says Senate committee

Steve Durant  
THE MUSE

OTTAWA (CUP) — Canada's colleges and universities have fallen into a dismal state of disrepair that will cost billions to fix, a Senate committee has found.

A report tabled earlier this month by the Standing Senate Committee on National Finance says post-secondary institutions across the country have allowed a backlog of \$3.2-billion worth of repairs.

The report attributes much of the build-up to the recession in the early 1990s, when universities and colleges were strapped for cash. Faced with operating deficits and demands to cut costs, institutions neglected routine repairs and upgrades.

In some cases, the lack of attention to maintenance has negatively affected universities.

"If we don't look after that [deferred maintenance], we may not be able to attract our best and brightest," said Senator Wilfred P. Moore, a member of the committee.

Deferred maintenance has also played a role in the "brain drain" of Canadian researchers leaving for the United States.

At the University of British Columbia, a biologist was forced to relocate to Stanford University in California because an outdated ventilation system kept her from maintaining the constant temperature needed for her work, said Liam Arbuckle, national director of the Canadian Alliance of Student Associations (CASA).

Arbuckle says deferred maintenance is such a problem, it's threatened students' safety.

"There's a story that, in McGill, there was a student in class and a tile fell on them," he said. "That's ridiculous ... who wants to go to school, honestly, in a rundown building?"

In its proposal to the Senate Committee, CASA requested the federal government immediately

transfer \$1.2 billion to universities, an amount Arbuckle says would take care of the most pressing maintenance issues.

Ian Boyko, national chair of the Canadian Federation of Students, says it's essential that governments act quickly on these issues.

"Deferred maintenance is a large problem because it's one of those things where, if you put it off, the chances of things getting worse rise," he said. "You just can't ignore crumbling buildings."

Both Arbuckle and Boyko fear that if governments do not become involved, the costs of repairs will be passed on exclusively to the universities.

"When universities and colleges are finding themselves short in funding, especially for repairing buildings, their easiest option to increase funding is obviously through increasing tuition," said Arbuckle.

Moore said it would be inappropriate to burden students with costly repairs. He proposes the federal government share costs with the provincial governments and the universities themselves for the improvements. "I don't think we can look to the students to cover any part of this through increased tuition fees," he said. "I think the students' financial loads are heavy enough."

Opinions vary about how much the federal government will chip in, and when. "I think the federal government will be happy to stand still on the issue," said Boyko, adding he thinks the provinces will be unwilling to supply additional funds if they are not matched by Ottawa.

CASA is more optimistic. "We think that there is a good chance of [funding], because it provides the federal government an opportunity to help out post-secondary education," said Arbuckle.

Finance Minister Paul Martin has been notified about the committee's report, said Moore. The issue may be addressed in the upcoming federal budget.

# SU hosts Christmas party for kids

Kristine Owram  
NEWS STAFF

Christmas can be a hard time of year, especially for underprivileged children. That's why the U of A Students' Union is holding a Christmas party for children from three inner city elementary schools on 7 December.

The Christmas party will run from 10:00am to 3:00pm, and will include a pizza lunch, cookie decorating, crafts and carol singing. The children will also get their pictures taken with "Santa," better known as Dale Coffin, the SU Services Manager. Before they go home, each child will also be given a gift, donated by local businesses and corporate sponsors.

"The purpose of this Christmas party is to reach out to the community and to give something back," said Alexis Pepin, SU Student Activities Coordinator. "These are kids who will really appreciate this. These are kids who are not going to be bombarded with toys on Christmas Day, and what kid wouldn't enjoy coming down here and having a day-long Christmas party?"

The first SU Inner-City Christmas party was held 21 December, 1995. Fifty SU vol-

unteers spent the day at an Edmonton school making crafts, playing games and eating with students. The event now draws over 500 kids from three Edmonton schools to SUB for Christmas activities.

This party will be the largest in its seven-year history—over 750 kids are expected from the three schools.

The Christmas party originated from a desire to give inner-city children an opportunity for a special day at a place they may not have the opportunity to visit.

Bill Smith, SU Building Manager said that, "We wanted to the kids the chance to see that our campus is not an unbreachable fortress on the other side of the river—somewhere they could never hope to go. If they come here and have fun when they're small, maybe they'll come back a few years later—this time with a backpack and a list of classes."

As well, the Christmas party allows U of A students a unique volunteer opportunity on a project that puts everyday problems into perspective.

"Even though their exam stresses are terribly high at this time, things could be a hell of a lot worse," said Smith.



Adam Rozenhart / THE GATEWAY

The Delta Chi Fraternity and Kappa Alpha Theta Women's Fraternity command attention for this year's "We Want Your Pants" campaign to collect clothing for the Bissell Center and WIN House. Donations will be accepted until Friday at the group's table in SUB.

# Student governments targets of fraud

Darren Stewart  
CUP BC BUREAU CHIEF

VICTORIA (CUP) — University student associations' lack of management experience and resistance to formal work relationships could make them a target for fraud artists, according to financial experts.

Victor Murray, a non-profit management specialist in the University of Victoria's public administration department said exaggerated annual turnover and informal culture make student unions attractive to white collar criminals.

"It's fair to call them a high-risk type of society," he said. "Every few years you hear about some student union being taken."

The University of Victoria Student Society (UVSS) suffered the worst case of student union fraud in Canadian history this term. A police investigation and a forensic audit are underway to track the missing money which could be more than \$300 000.

The frequency with which fraud

is committed is difficult to gauge because it isn't reported to a central agency, according to Murray. But he said it's safe to say it happens to student unions more frequently than typical non-profit groups.

"This happens to anybody," he said, "from seniors' groups to trade unions made up of CEOs of big corporations who ought to be sharp-nosed. But student unions do seem to attract these problems."

**"It's fair to call them a high-risk type of society. Every few years you hear about some student union being taken."**

— Victor Murray, management specialist, University of Victoria

The crisis at the University of Victoria was caused by mislaid trust from the board of directors to the permanent professional staff, which Murray said is a common mistake given the "informal culture" of a student union.

One manager was responsible for reporting the budgets of all stu-

dent union building businesses to the UVSS finance committee who in turn keeps students, or society members informed.

"He handed us the numbers and that was pretty much it," said director of finance Jonas Gifford. "For years it worked. This year it didn't."

Ken Glover, a Victoria accountant specializing in fraud and bankruptcy, said it's a problem in the non-profit sector. "Societies are out trying to do good for the benefit of all and there's usually a lot less self-interest when it comes down to finances."

Lucy Watson, BC organizer for the Canadian Federation of Students, said she helps a lot of unions solve problems but usually it's just a need for quick advice or a reputable accountant. She said she exchanged "regular phone calls" with the UVSS, mostly for support and advice after the crisis. She added there was a lot of surprise and shock in other unions after the cash crisis was revealed.

"I know most unions have informally and internally reflected on

their procedures and practices," she said. "But no major changes have happened that I know."

Watson said it's an ongoing project for student unions to look for ways to improve their methods, in part because of their reputations for being easy targets for fraud artists. She disagreed with Murray, and said lack of concern for cash was not an issue as most student unions work hard to be responsible to their members.

"By far the majority of student unions are cognizant of their role in that," she said. "They're always very vigilant."

Erfan Kazemi, president of the student association at the University of British Columbia, said his union prides itself on its transparency and level of financial checks. The group conducts an outside audit every year but go over their financial statements internally several times a year.

"We have strict controls on signing authority and do budgeting differently here," he said. "Everything is constantly under the microscope."



# IN YOUR OPINION

What was the best present you ever got for Christmas?



Jane Calder  
Arts I

When I was five, all I wanted for Christmas was a carriage for my four Cabbage Patch dolls. I wrote to Santa and asked him everyday for it. On Christmas morning I woke and under the tree was a box with my carriage inside it. I was so excited. I spent all day putting it together and playing with it. I was so happy.



Leanne Lumabi  
Eng IV

Last year my boyfriend bought me Winnie the Pooh pajamas, and when I opened the card it said, "I'm also taking you to Vancouver for reading week." We stayed in his dad's best friend's condo, and when I "forgot" my purse at his place before we left, he paid for the whole trip.



Jenny Steinke  
Science II

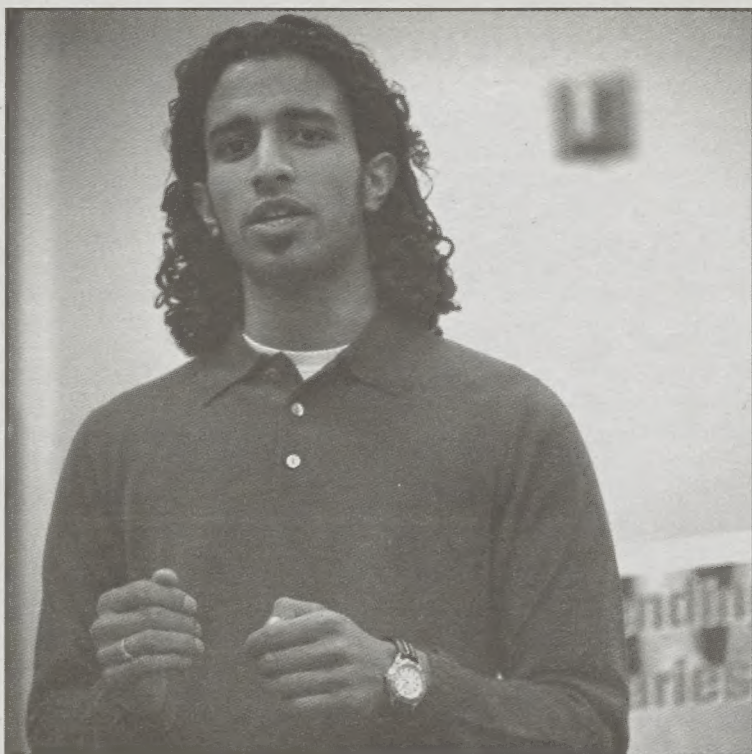
I don't know if my parents think I have really bad oral hygiene, but every Christmas I get a toothbrush, dental floss and toothpaste.



Holly Stevens  
Business III

Skis I guess. I don't know I guess, it was that year that it snowed like 20cm for the first time and the mountains were like huge and powdery, so it worked out really good.

Compiled by  
Jimmy Johnson and  
Johnny Tischer



File photo: Marcus Bence / THE GATEWAY

Chris Samuel, Students' Union President

## Klein gives support to education accord

"ACCORD" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

"He liked it and gave strong support for the accord to the extent that he said that although at the next premier's meeting the agenda will be dominated by healthcare, education and specifically the accord will definitely be introduced into the agenda for the meeting."

In Ottawa, Wuetherick and Samuel presented the accord and other educational concerns alongside University administrators. Organized through the U of A Office of Governmental Affairs, the Ottawa trip is taken yearly by University administration to discuss issues affecting the university and advocate the strong role the institution seeks to play in Canada's post-secondary education system. The U of A's unified front was an unprecedented presence for federal leaders.

"Almost all of the people that we met with said that we were the first university to bring represen-

tatives from undergraduate, graduate students and administration to the table at the same time," said Wuetherick. "We were also one of the universities to have student government reps supporting the administration on issues like indirect costs and international strategies to help bring more students to campus."

Samuel said the information presented by the U of A contingent was well-received. Klein's sentiments were favourably echoed in a meeting with Minister of Inter-Governmental Affairs Stephane Dion, said Samuel.

"Basically, we left Mr Dion's meeting with a promise from the federal government that if the provinces could come together and agree on major issues regarding education, then the federal government would look favourably on funding amending projects. It's a really exciting time to be in student government at the U of A."

## SUB expansion plans presented

Jonathan Tischer  
NEWS STAFF

In a presentation to Student's Council, Chris Samuel, Students' Union President, Jamie Speer, Vice President (Operation & Finance), and Bill Smith, SU General Manager released a summary on the finalized Students' Union Building Expansion plans.

The expansion of SUB, said Speer, is necessary in order to accommodate the increasing student body and effectively respond to their needs. The plan would see a 1650 square meter expansion of the building's main floor, with the construction of new food kiosk and retail areas.

One of the main features of the expansion is the significant increase in relaxation spaces. First, a 540 square foot multi-purpose student area where students can meet and talk, study or socialize will be constructed in the current courtyard. Secondly, a quiet study area on the south side of the building will be built with a "crash space" where students can catch

up on lost sleep.

Increased retail, Students' Union-operated student services and circulation spaces are also planned. SUBtitles, the popular SU operated textbook consignment outlet, will move into a new, larger space on the north side of the main walkway. To make room, Kim's Number One convenience store will be taken out of SUB.

The much disputed chaplains' space will still be moved to the smaller Gateway space in the basement, with the student paper moving to the third floor. The Chaplains and their supporters worry that the smaller basement space may impede their services.

However, the Student's Union, as stated in the Proposed Expansion of the Student's Union Building Summary for Student's Council, feels "the apparent decline in space will be nullified by a significant improvement in utilization effectiveness."

Once given final approval by the Board of Governors Finance and Property Committee, bids will be taken on the estimated \$6.9 million project.

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Mark Wells / THE GATEWAY

Richard Sherbaniuk, author of *The Fifth Horseman*

## Biothriller author gets sales boost

Peter Boer  
NEWS STAFF

In the wake of the 11 September attacks, Edmonton author Richard Sherbaniuk has found a new audience for his bio-terrorism thriller, *The Fifth Horseman*.

Since the repeated incidents involving the anthrax virus south of the border, Sherbaniuk has seen a remarkable boost in sales of his book, selling out the first print run that was published earlier this year. He was also contacted by the Institute for Creative Technologies in California and is currently undergoing a security check to contribute to the alternative strategic think-tank.

"I've always thought that fiction is an excellent predictor of future events," said Sherbaniuk. "In *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, [Jules] Verne predicted the invention of the fax machine and the submarine."

Sherbaniuk's *The Fifth Horseman*, researched at the U of A, tells the story of a group of terrorists who culture a strain of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) and introduce them into the water supply, an attack Sherbaniuk believes is not too far removed from reality.

"Ultimately, introducing a biological agent into the water supply is inefficient because people can just turn the water off," explained Sherbaniuk. "You'd want the agent to be either inhalable or absorbed through the skin."

Sherbaniuk drew on his experiences working with Alberta Special Waste Management Corporation when weaving his latest work. Mike Zammit, the detective and hero of *The Fifth Horseman*, was inspired by Sherbaniuk's work with other specialists in the same field.

"People [working in environmental science] just didn't seem to realize how interesting they are," explained Sherbaniuk. "So I decided to invent a new detective based on those people."

A member of the University of Alberta's Museums and Collections Board, Sherbaniuk was able to contact U of A profs for help during writing. Among the experts Sherbaniuk contacted were Dr Max Meng in robotics and Dr Sean Graham in botany, and Dr Jonathan Tyler in biomedical engineering.

Currently residing in Edmonton, Sherbaniuk is working on his second novel, which is due out sometime next Christmas. The book will be about the city of Venice being held hostage using chemical weapons.

## Grad students answer undergrad problems

"BELL CURVE" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Undergrads are charged \$5 (CDN) per academic problem, with \$4 per problem being paid to the TA. Reviewed essays cost undergrads \$2.50 per double-spaced page, with TAs earning \$2 for every double-space page they review.

Graduate Students' Association President Brad Wuetherick said he thought the site was a great use of technology, but was wary of the quality of such a new service.

"I am not 100 per cent sure of the screening mechanisms they are using to ensure the people they are getting on the site are top quality as they could be. It's a little bit of a concern, especially if you are an undergrad and you really want to get some good advice from somebody—you want to make sure it's from the right source," said Wuetherick.

But Wuetherick was impressed with experience that employment through the site could have for graduate students. Gaining employment while completing a graduate degree is difficult given time con-

straints imposed by demanding research projects. "As a grad student, I would be interested in participating. It's impossible to have off-campus jobs; they aren't very conducive to doing research, especially if you are working in a lab, writing a thesis and fulfilling TA duties on campus."

The tutoring site hopes to provide services to students across North America in all areas of study and in as many languages as possible. Currently, the site can only accommodate French and Spanish as well as English, but will include more as it expands.

"We have hired TAs from across North America in over 42 subjects. We are only in the launching phase of the project, so obviously this number will grow as student need demands," said Goodwin.

To pay for the service, students may use a credit card, but Goodwin says a new technology is being developed for the site that would allow students to access bank accounts from the site, a payment option similar to using debit

cards.

"We hope to have the 'hyper-wallet' or the online debt service available within the next few months," said Goodwin.

The site has also employed new technologies to ensure students will be able to use graduate assistance for study purposes only, not for cheating. Pixel dimensions for the site are fixed so that handheld computers such as Palm Pilots, which have smaller screen dimensions and would not be able to display the site or use solutions to cheat.

"I felt strongly that the site be used for preparation and revision only, it was very important to ensure that none of our services could facilitate a student to cheat," said Goodwin.

Students interested in the quality of the site are allowed to visit a guest room that posted copies of past solutions provided to students. Students can expect responses to questions posted with 24 hours, given the availability of tutoring graduate students.

## South campus space may be sold to third parties

"EXPANSION" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Development on the south campus features a number of teaching and research facilities with green space and "College Town": a commercial development similar to HUB Mall.

The south campus expansion also features a plot of land near Michener Park that is highlighted as possible development for non-student housing. "Our architects think some component of that site could be used for housing—for example, for seniors and other lifestyle opportunities. The thinking there is that it would be sold to third-parties," said Martin.

"But again, the long range plan doesn't make prescriptions in this regard. It offers the general land uses within which a choice, such

as third-party residential development, could occur."

As before, north campus expansion focuses on placing new facilities into existing parking structures, with plans for new student housing near Lister Hall and the Garneau walk-ups. It also pinpoints areas of campus that could be targeted for redevelopment within the 30-year plan. Among these buildings are the Environmental Engineering building, the Powerplant, and Rutherford Library South. Martin said that the age and condition of some structures may require such development in the future.

"Some of our buildings are very old and some are quite frankly decrepit. I can't be more specific, but logically, opportunities exist to

renovate or remove and replace or resituate buildings we do have at present on campus."

Response from those in attendance raised some new issues for the University.

Residents of Parkallen brought up questions on noise concerns that could emerge from the new development on south campus.

As well, Evelyn Davis, a board member with Alberta Turkey Producers, raised issues about the Poultry Research Centre currently on the south campus.

She asked officials whether the centre would continue, and who would incur expenses if the centre would be moved. "We've been told tonight that it'll happen in quite a while—ten, 15 years down the road."



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## EDITORIAL

### War profiteering alive and well

If you were to skip a rent payment, and try to explain to your landlord that a lot of things have changed since 11 September, you probably wouldn't get very far. But it's an excuse that, lately, has been thrown around by businesses and governments alike. It's called war profiteering, and it's an ugly thing.

Some are more subtle than the approval of George Bush's previously controversial Star Wars missile-defence project, or the awarding of a 40-year, \$200 billion contract for warplane manufacture, but agenda-makers and agenda-pushers have used terrorist attacks to justify previously controversial policy options, no matter how tenuous the connection or absurd the logic.

When the University presented their tuition increase to Students' Council in early October, one jarring point stood out. University Provost and VP (Academic) Doug O'ram said that tuition, as one of the only malleable income sources for the university, would need to increase because of the "collapse of the University's investment income in the wake of the 11 September terrorist attacks."

When questioned by the *Gateway*, he stated that the University was going to lose out due to Bank of Canada interest cuts made over the last year. But this looks more like a "get out of jail free" card after the University's failure to heed two years' worth of fiscal warning signs.

But it's not just the University. Our fair Premier, never slow on the draw, spent 12 September announcing \$1 billion worth of cuts to the provincial budgets. Hopefully, the province spent more than a scant 24 hours planning this major economic policy—the truth is, this was probably in the works for some time.

Klein is currently in Houston assuring that a pipeline to transport Alaskan wilderness oil, a project that wasn't even in the planning stage just three months ago, but one that seems more than reasonable "in light of recent events."

On Friday, 14 September an opinion appeared in the *Globe and Mail*, written by a Big Oil lobbyist in favour of drilling. It was the only way, he wrote, to counteract terrorism—or at least safeguard the West's supply from Arab extremists who would likely bomb Saudi Arabia's oil refineries.

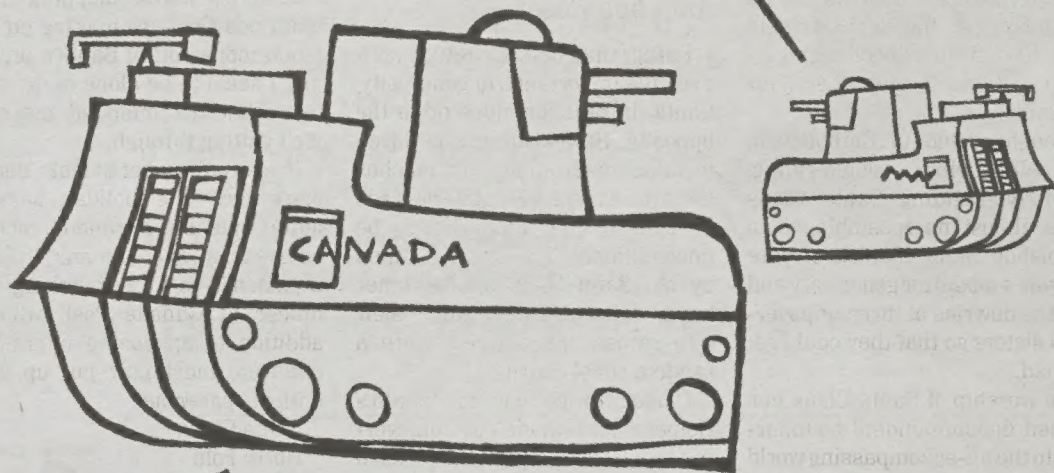
While there is oil in both Alaska and Saudi Arabia, the rest of the pipeline proposal just doesn't hold water. Exactly how secure can a pipeline be when it stretches 1600 kilometres through remote wilderness and can be punctured with a single bullet?

With these and many other examples it is becoming clear that while everyone is looking for anthrax, people have failed to notice a much more problematic substance—bullshit.

Collin Gallant  
SPORTS EDITOR

Just think of all  
the time we'd have  
had to spend in court  
for cracking all that  
hippie skulls...

God bless the  
Public Security Act!



Fond memories of Kaninaskis, 2002

-Biesinger 01

## LETTERS

### SU is making progress on tuition

If snot rockets flew out of Mr Winters' nose when he read the "What's Hot" pages of the University Rankings issue of *Maclean's*, crap flew out of my ass when I read his letter titled "SU can hardly be considered activist" (27 November).

Mr Winters' first complaint is how the Students' Union conducted itself during the tuition debate and how the Students' Union has little influence over the Klein government. It's unfortunate that Mr Winters was unaware that, as a direct result of our lobbying efforts, the government is reviewing the Tuition Fee Policy legislation this year and that the Premier himself will be championing post-secondary education at the next premier's conference. If that isn't influence, I don't know what is.

Mr Winters then rants about how the SU is meddling in the affairs of students. For Mr Winters' information, the Students' Union is mandated to manage the affairs of students and we will continue to do so in an accountable manner. If Mr Winters takes any exception to acting accountably, I make no apologies for the actions of the Students' Union, which have been completely justified.

The Students' Union most certainly welcomes criticism, but this criticism must be both constructive and based on fact. Unfortunately,

both were lacking in Mr Winters' letter. So since Mr Winters saw it fit to question the maturity of the Students' Union, I would throw the same challenge back to him and simply ask that he research his position before he states it.

CHRIS SAMUEL  
PRESIDENT  
U OF A STUDENTS' UNION

### The Simpsons is a better show than ever

I'm sure this letter is one of mere thousands on the subject, but that won't stop me from voicing my opinion regarding Adam Houston's unconscionable slander of the *Simpsons* ("Stinking Up Prime Time," 22 November). He misses the "genuine heart" behind the *Simpsons*? He considered it among the most "poignant shows on television"?

If you want to recapture the "heart-warming" comedy of the "Bart cheats his way into smart school" or "Lisa falls in love with her substitute teacher" episodes, I suggest you go watch reruns of *Full House* or *Home Improvement* on that channel that shows dirt-bike racing, because the *Simpsons* has (thankfully!) evolved past that hackneyed crap into a show about two things only:

One: Biting social commentary. The *Simpsons* lampoons and illu-

minates the society in which we all live, deconstructing universal issues and topics of day to day life with eloquence and humour.

Two: Pushing the boundaries of mainstream comedy. In a world of recycled music, movies, and TV, the discriminating viewer can find scant little that has not been seen or done a million times before. If the *Simpsons* can use its artistic freedom to provide some original, envelope-pushing content to a public that sorely needs it, they have my full support.

After more than a decade, the *Simpsons* continues to provide a quality alternative to 97 channels of crapola. If you choose not to evolve along with them, it's your decision, but don't act as if it's they who have some kind of problem.

CHRIS KRAUSE  
SCIENCE II

### Don't bash Engineers in defending Arts

In Joanne Kienholz's letter ("Arts students capable of finding work," 20 November) in one of her statements she stated that there is a flaw in the "noble quest" of an engineer because "it is difficult to make a positive impact in society without substantial knowledge in the first place (about society)."

How can someone who has no in-depth knowledge about one faculty make biased judgements about another? It's completely contradictory. By this, if she states

that an engineer does not have enough "substantial knowledge" about society to make a positive impact on it, by contrast, how can she possibly make a educated/valid statement against another faculty in which she obviously lacks "substantial knowledge" of?

Without an in-depth knowledge of an engineering or science faculty, how can one possibly say that science students are taught no "substantial knowledge" of society to make a positive impact? Engineers have more knowledge in one area that Ms Keinhold can ever dream about, but then again, Ms Keinhold may have some insight in social matters that an engineer may ever dream about. So Ms Keinhold, how can you possibly make the conclusion that your knowledge is more valuable than another person's?

Engineers live and learn about how their innovations and creations affect people worldwide. Without this "worldly" knowledge that you claim science students and engineers lack, have you ever thought about how your prescription drugs were made? How do you think you got your message out to the readers of *Gateway*? How do you watch your favourite TV shows? Do you have email? The list goes on. I am not saying that Engineering is better than Arts by any means, it is just that Engineering covers a different level of practicality and social consequences than say, a politician or a painter. For example, Salvador Dali, Albert Einstein, and Mark MacGwire have all made their benchmarks in the world but by doing what they love—not by convoluting stereotypes and reputation

with passion and the love for knowledge.

In Ms Keinhold's context, Salvador Dali may laugh and judge Fine Arts students because they have their skills "spoon-fed" to them and that by his belief, art is obtained through living, experience and insight. Hackers may laugh at computational science students because they get their computer skills "spoon fed" to them rather learning it the way they did.

One cannot put a hierarchy and prejudice on another's education and knowledge. Knowledge is knowledge no matter where you get it from. My personal opinion is that knowledge in any form should be shared and embraced with openness as opposed to judgements and deceit.

WILSON KWAN  
COMPUTING SCIENCES III

Letters to the editor should be dropped off at room 0-10 of the Students' Union Building, or e-mailed to managing@su.ualberta.ca.

The Gateway reserves the right to edit letters for length and clarity, and to refuse publication of letters it deems racist, sexist, libelous, or otherwise hateful in nature.

Letters to the editor should be no longer than 350 words in length and include the name, student identification number, program, and year of study of the author, to be considered for publication.



# Christmas just isn't what it used to be



Iva Cheung

He knows when you are sleeping. He knows when you're awake. He knows if you've been bad or good. Ugh, how creepy. Who is this guy, God or something?

Well, almost. Santa Claus is a modern day icon, ubiquitous and seemingly innocuous, who has in many ways been elevated to a status not unlike that of a deity in any one of the world's major religions. And, just like virtually all well-meaning religions with a benevolent god, the ideals of Santa Claus have been subject to manipulation by people to further their own aims.

Though rooted in Catholicism, the elf-keeping, sleigh-riding, North-Pole-residing Santa Claus bears almost no resemblance to the bishop Saint Nicolas of yore who was a model for generosity and paid the dowries of three impoverished sisters so that they could get married.

The worship of Santa Claus has crossed denominational boundaries into the all-encompassing world of commercialism, and the role of Jolly Old Saint Nick has been reduced to little more than that of a pawn, exploited by parents and businesses alike.

I've always found something a little bit unwholesome about parents lying to their kids, even about something as innocent as Santa. Many will maintain that it's all in good fun, but more often than not, Santa is used by parents in the context of a threat, or to bribe their children into good behaviour. This quick fix, if effective at all, is really only good for about two weeks before Christmas Eve; try using the "Santa won't come if you don't behave" line in the middle of February.

***Like the Catholic Church of the sixteenth century, I say that the cult of Santa Claus needs a reformation. We should either get rid of him, or revise his image to more accurately promote his founding ideals.***

Rather than demonstrate to children the importance of generosity, Santa, in practice, does quite the opposite. He encourages children to value materialism, and teaches them to expect material rewards for conduct that should really be unconditional. The sisters helped by old Saint Nick, on the other hand, did nothing to "earn" their gift; rather, the dowries were a random act of charity.

I used to be one of "Santa's Helpers" for Canada Post, answering hundreds of letters addressed to Santa from all over the country. The occasional sweet kid will write in wishing for peace on earth or the eradication of famine, but these are exceptions to the rule. Normally

the letters to Santa Claus are no more than long lists of toys, CDs and even cell phones that kids want for Christmas.

Sometimes they're not even letters—I've received mail to Santa consisting solely of pictures of toys cut out of catalogues, haphazardly glued onto a piece of looseleaf. No "Dear Santa," no "Thank you," no greeting of any sort—which is discouraging to say the least. This really deflates any hope that the children of the next generation are being taught to be kind for the sake of kindness.

Like the Catholic Church of the sixteenth century, I say that the cult of Santa Claus needs a reformation. We should either get rid of him, or revise his image to more accurately promote his founding ideals.

This will never happen, of course; toy stores, shopping malls and Coca-Cola are making far too much money off of Santa's image, and I seem to be alone in my concern that his intended message isn't getting through.

If you really want to make someone's day this holiday season, how's this for a random act of compassion and humanity? Send a postcard to a hardworking volunteer at Canada Post, who in addition to appeasing ungrateful children, must now put up with anthrax paranoia:

Santa Claus  
North Pole  
H0H 0H0

No postage is necessary, and I guarantee they'll remember this for years to come. Happy holidays, everyone.

## Alberta should ditch separatist rhetoric



Michael Colborne

I recently had the opportunity to attend a small conference at the Alberta legislature, the subject of which was the future of our province. Throughout the course of the evening, a number of points common to Albertan political parlance came up.

The point that struck me the most was a suggestion by a young woman who argued that the provincial government should fight and challenge the federal government every step of the way, and on almost every conceivable issue that comes our way, from taxes to healthcare to gun control, in the pursuit of greater provincial autonomy. This isn't an isolated suggestion; we've heard this before.

There's certainly a grain of truth to this statement, and to some extent, I find myself sympathetic. What irks me, however, is not the idea that we should challenge and fight the federal government; that idea is an essential part of democracy. I find the attitude that lurks behind it to be an impediment to national unity and the existence of a strong Canada. This attitude alienates Alberta from much of the rest of the country, and I don't think it's the sort of attitude this province or Canada needs.

The problem with the Albertan pursuit of provincial autonomy is that it's often seen to be selfish by other Canadians. At time, our rhetoric almost smacks of separatism. "The East takes all our money," it's said. "Let us have control over our own taxation," "stop this socialist Trudeau-esque centralization"—perhaps only the hardest of the hardliners say this, but it's not too far a stretch to suggest that this mentality is a common one in Alberta.

***For Albertans to take their money and run, to leave fellow Canadians without the help they need, does nothing to aid Canadian unity.***

Other Canadians hear this, and ask why we whine so much. After all, is Alberta not one of the richest provinces—if not the richest province—in the country? Atlantic Canadians especially resent this notion, as they rely on equalization, not because of any ineptitude on their part (as too many Albertans would like to believe), but because their economies don't quite have the fortune of Alberta's—namely, they're not standing over any oil. For Albertans to take their money and run, to leave fellow Canadians without the help they need, does nothing to aid Canadian unity.

There's nothing wrong with fighting for autonomy, or challenging the federal government on certain policy directions. What matters, however, is the way we do it. If we challenge and fight with a fierce "us versus them" mentality,

under the almost dogmatic auspices that we've been grievously wronged by those pesky easterners, we're going to drive a wedge between us and the rest of the country.

You might ask, then, how can we push for autonomy without stepping on toes? We can do so by comporting ourselves as sharing a common cause with other provinces. And oddly enough, Ralph Klein's been playing this role fairly often, and fairly well. Even he has said that he supports equalization payments, and he has even taken giant steps to cooperate with Ottawa and the provinces. True, his fists are still up—but he's not punching blindly.

To put it succinctly, Klein's attitude towards autonomy doesn't smack so much of isolationism, but more of a desire to operate freely within the Canadian polity. We've still got a long way to go, but we'd have an even longer way to go if we adopted the isolationist, near-separatist sentiment found among too many Albertans.

Unfortunately, this attitude still lingers in the seats of power, and quite strongly at that. Countering with a little common sense is essential, not only to keeping this country together, but to create a stronger one.

Just think of a future when our oil has run dry, and we have to rely on a little helping hand from Ottawa and the richer provinces, whoever they may be. Our savings alone won't save a whole provincial economy. Will they be so ready to help us after we've pushed them aside?

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# Increasing tuition might kill the liberal arts

Will student debt push more and more people towards traditionally higher-paying degrees?



Tricia Lowrey

I'm going to graduate debt-free this April, so in theory next year's tuition hike, which will bring tuition over the \$4000 mark, should be no concern for me. I should find it upsetting that this year I paid significantly more for seven courses than I did in my first year for ten, and just leave it at that.

The trouble is, I'm one of those people who takes a very long time to figure things out. This Bachelor of Arts has taken me six years, not because it's so hard I've had to take a reduced course load or retake courses, but because I changed my mind so many times—what program I wanted to be in and what I want to be when I grow up (and whether I want to grow up at all).

I started in general science, got admitted to honours neuroscience, and was kicked out of that for dropping biochemistry and organic chemistry. Then I decided to go into psychology instead, got admitted to that honours program, did an internship not only because it would look good on my resumé but because I was totally broke, and learned that I don't believe in

psychology and got totally burnt out. So I took a year off to let my mental health recover, worked in some shit jobs which motivated me to finish my degree, and here I am.

And this semester I finally figured it out: the reason I was so unhappy in psychology is because I wanted to be doing philosophy. I know it's important to amass a vast collection of facts, but I don't want to do it myself; I want to ask about meanings.

I was so excited about discovering philosophy that, until the tuition increase went through, I had been thinking that maybe I would do some after-degree work and then go for a master's degree. I know a graduate degree in philosophy wouldn't get me much in the way of jobs, but it would finally be a chance to do what I love most: argue and write.

But I'm at the end of my savings, and even if I keep on living with my mom and get a good job this summer, I won't have \$4000 by September. I have the choice of either working in a field I don't enjoy, possibly for the rest of my life, or going seriously into debt to pursue something I really care about.

I don't know if I have any right to complain. There may be other students who will not be able to finish their degrees at all. Meanwhile, taxpayers have already treated me to a subsidized education that I could not have afforded if I had to pay its real cost, and with my bachelor's degree, I can hopefully

get a better job than working at the ATCO gas call centre trying to convince customers that gas prices are fair.

Maybe I'm just a big freeloading whiner if I think I should continue to be subsidized for what is really just personal enrichment and not an investment that will make me a bigger economic producer.

***It's one thing to be horribly in debt and starting a career as a doctor; it's quite another to be horribly in debt and starting a career as a writer.***

If higher education's sole purpose is economic, then I have no right to complain. I have received more than my share of taxpayer investment and now I owe the rest of Alberta and Canada some economic output to justify all the money they've spent on me. I've invested my own money as well, and if I don't feel that my investment is paying off well enough, it's my fault for making a bad investment decision.

But universities are not just expensive machines that contribute to the economy by taking in high school graduates and putting out skilled workers. Universities produce not only tangible, economic commodities such as doctors, teachers, and engineers, but also less concrete benefits.

Universities are where ideas are generated, and the value of discourse is difficult to measure eco-

nomically.

Consider the difference between a society that produces only economic goods and services, and a society where there is art and literature and philosophy.

Making tuition fees affordable not only facilitates the production of doctors, teachers, and engineers, but also allows people the opportunity to contribute to the well-being of their society through their ideas. Increasing tuition fees impoverishes our society by emphasizing the investment value of education over its potential for human development.

It's one thing to be horribly in debt and starting a career as a doctor; it's quite another to be horribly in debt and starting a career as a writer. Increasing tuition may force people into programs where they will get a guaranteed financial return on their investment, instead of developing their real potential in less economically rewarding fields.

It is possible that, one day very soon, only children of the very wealthy will be able to realistically choose to study in fields other than pre-professional programs. Society as a whole will suffer as a result: discourse will not only be reduced, but relegated to the discourse of the most privileged, who have no reason to want change.

University will no longer be a place that generates debate and challenge the mores of society, but rather, a place in which the status quo is endlessly perpetuated.

## THE BURLAP SACK

This hearty sack walloping goes out to Britney Spears, whose new video, "I'm a Slave 4 U," proves once again that in the vicious battle between tits and taste, tits will inevitably reign supreme.

Her puzzling clout is proven in this poor excuse for teen pornography, in which the well-inflated blonde demonstrates an incredible lack of talent. It's a sure sign of pop superstardom when a bunch of heavy breathing laid atop a droning beat constitutes a song.

I shudder to think of the poor young things out there that idolize such trash. Trash, moreover, who still professes to be a virgin, regardless of the fact that her wardrobe now consists of outfits that would make a prostitute blush.

Ugh. Oh well, Britney, at least I can rest easy in the knowledge that your fame won't last you until your twenty-first birthday. What's that I hear, Britney? Could it be the ticking away of those precious few minutes of fame you have left?

Well, at least you can take comfort in the fact that when your recording career fizzles out, you can have a rewarding life as an exotic dancer. I hear the pay's nice, and you don't have to bother yourself with putting on clothes at all. Imagine that! Now hold still so I can hit you, baby, one more time!

KELLY FITZGIBBON

*The Burlap Sack is a semi-regular feature where, a person or group who needs to be put in a sack and beaten, is ridiculed in print. No sack beatings are actually administered.*

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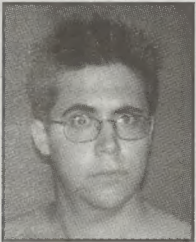
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# Tobin's Internet proposal a total waste



James Elford

In a recent *Globe and Mail* article, it was reported that there has been some anger over Industry Minister Brian Tobin's attempt to save the proposed billion dollar plan to set up the infrastructure to bring highspeed (or "broadband," as the government refers to it) Internet access to everyone in Canada by 2004.

The specifics of this aren't so much important; it just seems odd that Tobin would be struggling so hard to bail out a program that was a questionable expenditure even before there was an economic downturn.

I understand that because of population density, market forces make it unlikely that highspeed Internet will make it out to many rural areas. I understand that massive government subsidies are necessary for almost all rural infrastructure, and maybe in the long run this will be a necessary development. However, that time is not now.

Not everyone uses the Internet, and many of those who do, use it only in a limited capacity. The idea of broadband Internet would be great if it weren't for the simple fact expressed in the old saying, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make it drink." Besides

making me look like some kind of cornball, it points out one of the major problems with this. Just because people can access broadband doesn't mean (a) they will choose to, or (b) that they will be in any way productive once they do so.

This plan presupposes that people in rural areas have a computer and will be willing to shell out for the access. There are probably some people who can and would, but that doesn't justify such a huge expenditure when there are plenty of other things the money could be used for.

I'm sure there are plenty of prairie farmers that would be more than happy that the government spent a billion dollars on highspeed Internet access so that they can check out falling commodity prices and long-range drought forecasts

before their house and computer are repossessed.

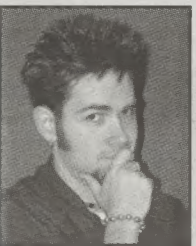
Is the government in some kind of *Brewster's Millions*-like situation where we won't get more money if we don't spend all that we have in some kind of wastefully comedic manner? Or maybe it's just a big make work plan for the suffering telecommunications industry that has turned into Brian Tobin's profile-building pet project to use against Finance Minister Paul Martin in the upcoming election.

If the government is looking for fat to trim, this initiative would be a good place to start. While the Internet might some day live up to the hype that surrounded it only a few years ago, spending our money at this point in the hopes of getting on the "broadband revolution" is a very expensive and questionable prospect.

## Dave Alexander's TOP TEN Signs it's Christmas in the Deep South

- 10 Beef jerky and a shot of Wild Turkey are left out for Santa.
- 9 Cousins get reacquainted with each other ... under the mistletoe.
- 8 "Carollers" erect burning crosses on front lawns while singing "Whites-Only Christmas."
- 7 The most popular TV movie is *How the Grinch Stole Christmas...* and a *Grand Torino Full of Stereo Equipment*.
- 6 A lot of happy kids are getting *Kidrockapoly*.
- 5 Mall Santas with mullets are busying fulfilling their community service hours.
- 4 Strippers are booked by folk who "wanna show Jesus a good time on his birthday."
- 3 Parents tell kids about Rudolph the Red-Necked Reindeer, who had a very shiny nose because he was piss-drunk all the time.
- 2 Stores sell out of Tickle-Me-Jethro dolls.
- 1 Kin folk are decking the halls instead of each other.

# Some hot spending advice for the holidays



Adam Rozenhart

Christmas: it's the most wonderful time of the year, according to some people. With the falling snow comes the heady sounds of Bing Crosby singing "White Christmas," hastily assembled decorations depicting Jesus hugging an elf, and that fat drunk guy in the red suit. Seriously, Dad, put some pants on. That's disgusting. It shouldn't be that shade of red.

Sickening relatives aside, Christmas is about family, togetherness and love. Unless you're me. In that case, Christmas is about presents and food. However, as students, many of us struggle to buy nice things and cook nice meals for our holiday guests. Fortunately, I've compiled an exceedingly useful list of tips to help you get through the holidays on budget.

Gift shopping is often the one thing that will really tap your finances. Some people like to get fancy and buy DVD players or cars for their friends. You must avoid this type of frivolous spending if you want to have a debt-free Christmas. A little creative shopping will help you get something nice for everyone on your list. Just follow these simple directions:

Shop at thrift stores. I cannot stress this enough. Thrift stores are a veritable cornucopia of fantastic gifts. If you feel obliged to buy presents for people you don't like, this would be the perfect place to do it. For example, if you have an uncle who's a complete asshole, consider purchasing a broken lamp with a plaid shade. Think of the statement you're making: "You're not important enough for me to even think about buying you something worthwhile, you two-timing shit." Obviously, there are some underlying issues between you two, and this just isn't the place to bring them up, okay? Let's just keep this moving.

If thrift stores aren't your bag, consider fishing through dumpsters. You'll probably be able to find an old-but-expensive retainer that some nerdy kid threw out, which translates into money for you, if you know an unscrupulous orthodontist. There's also a chance you might find a dead prostitute, which could mean a cash reward for you if you call Crime Stoppers.

If the dumpster doesn't yield anything worthy of a Christmas gift, consider stapling a banana peel to a piece of canvas (or burlap, depending on how wealthy you are) and putting it in a picture frame. BFA students call this sort of thing "modern art." If the recipient of your banana-peel-art doesn't like their gift, try selling it for \$10 000 to a Euro-trash art critic on eBay.

There is, of course, the matter of Christmas decorations. A Christmas tree is the easiest to procure. You can either chop one

down from your local ravine or forest, or else you can chop one down from your neighbour's living room. The latter is probably your best course of action, since your neighbour's tree will likely already be decorated. The best time to do this is when no one is home, or when everyone is asleep. First unplug the lights, and then make sure that you tiptoe a lot. Being that you are all fashionable individuals, make sure you wear a black burglary outfit, with some red and green splashed here and there for that added Christmas cheer.

Finally, there are the dinner arrangements to take into consideration. Eggnog is very popular among more opulent Christmas revellers; however, it can be quite costly. As an alternative, try mixing breast milk with antifreeze. You'll get drunk faster, and as an added bonus, you'll probably go blind.

Many families dine on turkey, stuffing, and cranberry sauce during the holiday season. However, if you're strapped for cash, there are safe and healthy alternatives. With a little chicken wire, glue and newspaper, you can create your own turkey. Red food colouring will provide you with all the cranberry sauce you need. If you like stuffing, just pull a pillow apart, heat and serve.

Christmas doesn't have to be a costly affair. With a little bit of creative spending, Martha Stewart-style, you should have no problems enjoying the holiday season just like all those affluent fucking plutocrats with their "presents" and "food." Merry Christmas!

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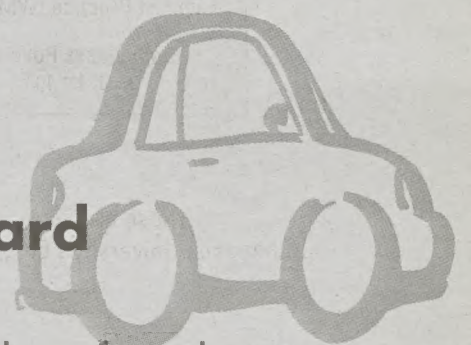
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# Charles Miron too good a teacher to risk losing



Brendan Procé

This past September, aged twenty-one years, I decided to try something new: ice hockey. A little late to start, sure—but now that I've started, I'm never going to stop.

Great teachers can make anything interesting: I'm not much into history, but I had a great teacher in high school, and in retrospect, I think that was my favourite class. Campus recreation employs a great teacher in their non-credit beginners ice hockey program: Charles Miron. He's thinking of leaving his post next semester so that he can finally wrap up his degree. If he leaves, the program may collapse altogether, making it difficult for novices to learn the sport so late in the game. It'd be a great loss to our university community if this program were no longer offered.

Why is ice hockey so great? No other sport is as dynamic: first you have to learn to skate, which is practically a sport in itself, and then you have to mix in the game. No other sport requires so many different things of you: speed and style on skates, soft hands and a hard shot with the puck, grit

in your checks and accuracy with your passing. Soccer players run and kick, while hockey players skate and clash sticks and shoulders. Basketball players get a whistle if somebody slaps them, while hockey requires you to slam your opponent. Baseball, a great game in its own right, is just too slow.

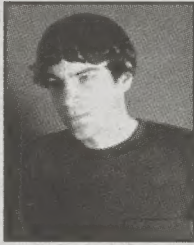
I doubt that I'd be playing now had this class not been offered. This beginner course provides an outlet to learn, away from your more skilled peers. You're on the ice with a bunch of people who suck nearly as badly as you, but Chuck is very understanding of his students' lack of ability.

He's got amazing skill himself, enough to show you how to flawlessly execute nearly every drill, but he doesn't make you feel little or incompetent. He's played for years, but he makes you feel comfortable, and has a way of poking fun at your mistakes that isn't insulting or condescending. It made me want to learn more.

I really want to take his course again. At \$75 for eight eighty-minute sessions, it's very reasonably-priced instruction, never mind the free equipment rentals and ice-time to boot. It's a hell of a deal, and has made me startlingly aware of what I missed out on when I was younger.

Your services are really appreciated Chuck, and dammit, if this article isn't enough to persuade you to keep teaching, or at least convince Campus Recreation to find somebody else to teach in your place, I'm gonna be pissed.

# Drinking is the best part of any holiday



Raymond Biesinger

By the time Christmas was over last year, I had poured 57 gin and tonics down my throat—I know because I did a recount shortly afterwards for student loan purposes. Every single one of my friends cried about their family at once. I got a crappy coat from my dad and it's still hidden in my closet unworn.

Every time the closet is open, my roommates try to guess who the crisp, clean Mountain Sun jacket belongs to. If I still talked to my father these days, I'm sure I'd get pangs of guilt every time anyone mentions any sort of jacket.

That year, the holiday season did much more than drive a wedge between father and son; the straws that came with those 57 gin and tonics pierced many a heart and mind. Last New Year's Eve a sweet dame had caught the dumps from me, even though I had declared myself as dry as Utah earlier in the evening.

My sober little mind didn't know what to do with such novel things as "senses" and "composure," and an innocent bystander caught the side-effects.

But I've evidence of even more sour Christmas cheer. Three years

ago, after a family party akin to feeding time in a hyena pen, I crawled into my monster-car and got myself to party town after stealing a pint of Grand Marnier from my father. It wasn't just a case of removing it from the liquor cabinet—I had to fully unwrap the bottle, as it was a gift from one of father's clients.

Grand? Yes, it was, with Dr Pepper and giant fancy glasses. Marnier? First into my stomach and later all over my friend Dave's back seat. Even grander was that he left for a three-week trip to Montreal the next morning, leaving the Marnier to marinate in his car for that time—needless to say, we never spoke again.

***Sadly, it turned out that the parking lot was full of police officers who had caught me in a clever sting operation, revoked my driver's license and threw me in the drunk tank.***

Upon waking up, I found my clothes and shoes in the sink, and myself still abuzz with cotton in my head. Then there was a telephone call: "We're opening presents at Mom's place—are you coming?" and I responded, "Maybe in a while," as I wasn't a safe candidate for sitting behind the steering wheel, even though it was something past noon.

But I did it anyway, with two blackened eyes and half-memories of wearing a dress the previous evening. My '73 Scamp slid all over the roads, blindly finding a park-

ing lot only after threatening several school children.

Sadly, it turned out that the parking lot was full of police officers who had caught me in a clever sting operation, revoked my driver's license and threw me in the drunk tank. Thereafter, I became both social pariah and the bane of my community, despite my 100 hours of community service.

Actually, I wasn't, and there was no clever sting operation, nor were police officers involved—nor do they ever get involved. Just as I did then, everyone's going to drink and drive this Christmas, and no one's going to get caught. Your dad won't, your mom won't, nor your brothers, sisters, rabbits or dogs—any quarter-sober pet can figure out how to out-balance a check-stop.

And I'm saying that you shouldn't have to, and not because I've a bigger car than yours and I've no qualms with pulling a cop-turn down several flights of stairs and into your crappy basement suite. Why? Because you can use your drunkenness as an excuse to sleep on that cute boy or girl's couch, or even better, you can fall asleep and die in a beautiful white snowbank as you try to walk home.

Come to think, here's an even better option: call your mom, tell her that she's aged well and that you're too drunk to find pants, let alone drive.

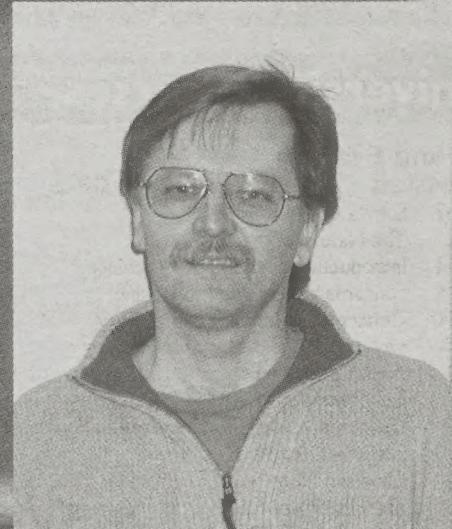
On the way home, you might find that your mother still loves you—even though you smell like garbage and cigarettes—just because you didn't drink and drive.

And isn't that what Christmas-time is all about?

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**Congratulations Dr. Lamoureux, and thank-you for being a talented teacher.**



# This semester can't end fast enough



Chris Boutet

Man, I can't even begin to articulate just how glad I am that this ass-kicking semester is almost over. Oh sure, I only had three classes this semester, but when you think about it, that's roughly nine hours a week I could have spent playing *Civilization II* or watching *Corvette Summer* over and over again. Jesus.

Really, the Christmas break couldn't have come at a better time. I swear to God, if I have to learn one more single fact about the religious and political climate in England during the seventeenth century, I'm going to rip out my intestines, duct-tape a stray cat to my head and spend the rest of my days wandering the streets, hollering about why the Puritans found William Laud's *Book of Common Prayer* so reprehensible (who says Arts students can't find good work?).

I suppose that there were some good points—after all, I did get my first nine on a midterm exam. Granted, that might not be such a big deal to those of you who "read your textbooks," "go to class," or "listen to your professors when they talk," but to me, it was uncharted territory.

Although I do suppose it was a little anti-climatic. I mean, the way everyone talks about getting a nine, you'd think that the U of A would etch your name onto the surface of Mars with a giant space-tool of some kind, or at the very least have Rod Fraser come over to your house and give you a back rub.

But it wasn't to be. There were no balloons; no streamers, just, "Hey, here's your nine, nameless person. Can you go away now?" Well that's okay, History Professor, I don't know your name either. I guess our little arrangement works out pretty well.

**Not too many people realize it, but in the University's Code of Conduct, having your homework stolen by vagabonds, gypsies, or wandering minstrels is actually an acceptable reason for not handing it in.**

Other than the aforementioned grading anomaly, I've managed to keep up my rather impressive string of fives and sixes that will eventually garner me the coveted "satisfactory completion" on my Arts degree. Which, when you think about it, is pretty much the same as saying "unsatisfactory completion," or "completed to our astonishment," but much better than "completed without possibility of any future monetary recoupment."

But I'm getting ahead of myself. Lately, I've been dink-deep in a pile of endless homework that can only be described as "severely neglected."

It has reached the point when I'm seriously considering just leaving it all on the back porch for the hobos to come up and steal. Not too many people realize it, but in the University's Code of Conduct, having your homework stolen by vagabonds, gypsies, or wandering minstrels is actually an acceptable reason for not handing it in.

This little loophole might be hard to take advantage of if, unlike me, you live in a "nice" or "respectable" neighbourhood, but it's just as easy to drive downtown and throw your Physics assignment into a porno store. That kind of counts.

So how I am going to waste away this much-needed vacation from the vomit-scented annals of the Humanities building? I could use the time to get a head start on the readings for my Write class, but I can't see that happening any time soon. I mean come on—when you take a holiday from work, do you wander around the house in a suit, writing memos to your housepets? Probably not.

The truth is, I'd rather get arrested in China for drug trafficking than spend one second of this much-needed break reading. No, over the next month, I think that I'll pursue some of my many distinguished hobbies, such as cataloguing exotic insects, perfecting my backgammon play, or eating Doritos in the bathtub while listening to Slayer.

But until then, I'm just going to have to coast through my classes with look of vested interest glazed on my face.

After all, I've already got one nine; wanting any more would just be greedy.

## THE OFFICIAL RESULTS FOR SUPERPOLL 3000!

Last time on SuperPoll 3000!...

**Our university's slogan sucks. Assuming that "Where the World Meets" is only temporary, now is probably the best time to change the university's slogan from "It Makes Sense..." to something new and exciting. What would you suggest as a slogan to describe our beloved educational institution?**

An astronomical and record-shattering 61 people answered this SuperPoll question, proof positive that at least 0.2 per cent of students are reading the *Gateway*. Among the responses were:

**"Expanding like an uncontrolled sweatpants boner."** Yes, very graphic. Thank you for your submission.

**"In Rod we Trust."** Not me.

**"The Truth is Always in the Last Place You Look."** Well, it is somewhat unnecessary to keep looking for something after you've found it.

**"All Your Neighbourhood are Belong to Us."** What the fuck are you talking about? Oh yeah, Garneau expansion. Ha!

**"It sucks."** Very concise.

**"The writer of this slogan once killed a member of a mariachi band. His half-brother owns this university. Enjoy your stay."** The other day, I ate a bug. By accident.

And finally:

**"It takes cents. And lots of 'em!'"** I officially recommend this as our new slogan.

So overall, the answers broke down like this:

100% Some kind of slogan

0% The complete set of Julia Child's *Unsolved Russian Mysteries*

*Mark McIntyre's SuperPoll 3000! is a semi-regular feature that takes interest in you, the reader. Visit the web page below to give Mark a piece of your beer-addled brain—all respondents will retain anonymity, so Mark can't sell your kidneys on the Mexican black market.*

VISIT [WWW.UALBERTA.CA/~MMM/POLL.HTML](http://WWW.UALBERTA.CA/~MMM/POLL.HTML) TO PLAY!



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Part three of a five-part in-depth feature series by Collin Gallant examining the University of Alberta's athletics program. In this issue:

# the Cost of Excellence

"ATHLETICS" CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

While students may be familiar with the favourable win-loss record of the U of A's sports teams, they may not be aware of monetary shortfalls incurred by the program: more than \$350 000 last year part of a larger debt of \$1.5 million, said Dean of Physical Education Mike Mahon.

"[The business plan] we are proposing would have the University provide a modest base-level of funding to athletics, allowing the department to balance its budget," said Mahon. He stated that the current funding situation is outdated and unable to sustain the program without alteration.

Alberta is nationally recognized as one of the strongest athletic schools in the country, but relies solely upon student fees and fundraising for its monetary stability.

"The challenge we face in Athletics, as opposed to units that are funded by the University's base-funding, is that there's nothing built in to deal with incremental costs from year to year," said Mahon. He refers to staff cost-of-living increases, inflation related to team travel and especially the strain of increased use of recreation facilities. Such factors are accounted for in University funded units.

Since 1993, funding for sports teams and recreation programs have been funded by a combination of student levy fees (set at \$48 per term per student) and a variety of external sources (fundraising, sport camp revenue, and alumni and corporate support). Prior to 1993 the athletics was funded wholly by the University. That year, a general down-turn in provincial funding resulted in the divorcing of central administrative funding from athletics. In 2000, collected student fees and external revenue elements provided equal halves of the department's total

funding of \$5.2 million.

"This debt is something that has been under review for sometime," said Mahon. "What was found is that the cost of a successful program is beyond what was predicted at the time the current budgetary system was devised."

Mahon said that the current system was based on a projections of a university population of only 25 000 students. The U of A now boasts 35 000 full and part time students. More than 26 000 students used fitness centre and recreation facilities last year, the centre is funded by each student's athletics fees, which have remained set since 1995.

"The sheer expanse of the university has put a strain upon the recreation and facilities budget, but if we are not able to resolve this debt, then we'll have to look at some very challenging decisions in regards to the programs."

**"Where does the money come from? You can't raise ticket prices, and sponsors aren't going to jump in with that sort of money. You can't go out and fundraise another \$100 000 every year. It's just not possible."**

— Ian Reade, athletic director, 1994–2001

The business plan presented this week borrows heavily from a two-year old study written by a task-force headed up by then-dean Dr Art Quinney and then-athletics director Ian Reade.

"There has never been a system put in place to cover incremental costs," said Reade, who served eight years as athletics director starting in 1994—the position oversees the entire sports programs. Reade left the job in early September to become director of

the University's integrated marketing office. Alberta's athletics directorship is still vacant.

"Where does the money [to cover increasing costs] come from? I've yet to find a money tree," said Reade, who believes that core funding is the best solution. "[At the university level] you can't raise ticket prices, and sponsors aren't going to jump in with that sort of money. You can't go out and fundraise another \$100 000 every year. It's just not possible."

"The money has to come from central Administration funding. [Right now] the students are paying the entire bill. What does Senior Administration pay? What comes out of the central operating budget? That's the problem."

Working for eight years as program director, Reade oversaw some of the University's most successful sporting years but also some of the tightest budgets. During the early years of his term, every team had their funding for non-conference travel budgets completely cut. Teams would need to fundraise to attend tournaments and play exhibition games.

Despite the restraining measures the deficit continued to grow. Reade sees salary increases as a major cause of the increase, but stands firm that increases themselves are not the problem.

"From '90 to '94 people who worked at the university actually took salary decreases, so of course costs didn't go up in those years," said Reade of the four years leading up to his stewardship of the program. "But for the last six years salaries have gone up around three per cent each year."

"If a faculty had to cover those salary increases [themselves] each year, then they'd have to cut a position every year. But in the collective bargaining agreement between the [academic staff's] union and [university] administration those cost-



of-living increases are covered by central funding."

Reade vehemently disagrees with suggestions that programs or salaries be scaled back as a solution.

"Everything that this university stands for, from its mission statements right on down is 'excellence.' [The coaches] are faculty members, some of them with ten or 15 years of experience, and they're [not disposable]. The best programs in the country have the best coaches, period."

Reade sees the misconceptions that surround the athletic department as a problem.

"Any rumours that our coaches are over paid are [completely] preposterous," said Reade. "You can

go across the country and ask them what their coaches are paid and you'll get a pretty good indication of what coaching is worth."

Since salaries are confidential, Reade would not provide examples, but said that many would be surprised at how low the U of A's coaches salaries were. He stated that an Alberta coach's pay is comparable to that of a high school coach with similar experience.

"The long term problem is that once all this is worked out is that the U of A's program is not run at a lavish funding level. The rumour is that [we win] because we have more money, but that is not true."

Hard figures on other universities' budget were not available for comparison.

## Schulha remembers GB football's dark days

Collin Gallant  
SPORTS EDITOR

Dale Schulha served as U of A athletic director during, perhaps, the darkest days of the program. During his term (from 1990 to 1994) the Golden Bears football program was cut on two separate occasions.

Schulha entered the job at a time when funding to the entire university was shuddering from decrease expenditures from the provincial government.

"Taking the job I knew it would be a financial challenge," said the former director. "Unfortunately over those years the University was making standard cuts of anywhere from eight to eleven per cent across all departments."

But Schulha explains athletics

was caught in a "double whammy."

"Each department would make the cuts, which would affect athletics staff, then the athletics department would be expected to make similar cuts."

"Even after cutting as much as possible to the [administrative side] we were still looking at a shortfall of around \$450 000, [even though] every year we brought in more fundraising dollars than the year before."

Faced with that figure, Schulha saw one of two solutions: either cut a large program such as football or hockey, or cut six to eight of the smaller programs, such as soccer, volleyball and wrestling.

It was a calculated risk, says Schulha, but he decided to cut the football program. The captain of the '72 Vanier Cup winning Bears

team saw football as the one sport that the community wouldn't let go without a fight. It was a gamble that paid off as the team and community rallied with fundraising efforts.

"It was a tough thing to do," said Schulha. "It was national news for two straight weeks [before a solution to keep the team was found]. I look at some of those teams that could have been on the chopping block—the soccers and the volleyballs—and how well they've done and I'm very happy."

The team was once again axed in 1993 but was saved yet again by athletics and community-based efforts.

Schulha's two sons have played football since those days. His son Ryan, finished his fifth year with the team this last season.

## New director to be named by New Year's

Collin Gallant  
SPORTS EDITOR

Three candidates have been short-listed for the University of Alberta's vacant athletics director position, according to reports in the *Edmonton Sun* and confirmed by an internal department memo.

The memo, sent to individuals in the department's selection committee was quoted in the *Sun's* story.

In alphabetical order, the candidates are former Canada West Conference President Kim Gordon, local businessman Bob Kinasewich, and former head of Bears wrestling program Mark Yurick.

Since early September, former Athletics Chair Dr Garry Smith has been acting director. He filled the position vacated when Ian Reade left the position after eight years to become director of the University's integrated marketing office.

Athletics official John Barry stated that the candidates were questioned as to how they would work to solve the program's \$350 000 deficit and were required to provide a strategy for reversing the shortfall.

Sources close to the department believe that the director position will be filled in the next three or four weeks.





Cory Wanless / THE GATEWAY

Both the Pandas and Bears will be tidying up the half season against Regina.

# V-ball to host clawless 'Cats

Meredith Porter  
SPORTS STAFF

The Pandas and Bears will finish the first half of their season this weekend when they make the Regina Cougars dig and dive on Friday and Saturday night.

The games should only pose some slight challenges as the Cougars are 0-10 for the season, both men's and women's. The Pandas are currently ranked tenth in the country, and the Bears have moved up, into a tie for second.

The Pandas have been eyeing the top spot in the country this year and, despite their ranking remaining unchanged, the team's successes and progression can be seen in their improved net play, offense, and cohesion on the floor.

Coach Laurie Eisler is optimistic about the Pandas' season thus far: "I think that we've come a long way," said Eisler. "We know we're catching up to the top teams this year. The ones we've lost to in the last five weeks are, for the most part, the top three or four teams in the country, so we know we're closing the gap, but we know we've got a ways to go before we get

there. We need to put on a quality performance and not get ahead of ourselves."

This is a big concern for the Pandas, as it's one of the main reasons why they're not up there with the Bears in the higher ranks.

Losing during the fifth set in intense rallies has become a trend for the team—one that they need to put an end to.

That will come with the second half of the season, during which Eisler predicts they will have some successes "getting the outcomes we want and controlling what we have control over."

The Bears also have some work to do on the weekend and over the break. Their service has improved in the last two weeks, but there's no such thing as too good. Coach Schick can also look forward to having another chance at some of the teams that have yanked wins away from them, and could potentially gain the opportunity to reclaim those points.

There's no telling what the new year will bring, but a little birdie keeps hinting at bigger numbers in the win column come the second half of the season.

# Easy schedule shadows Bears

Bryan Lee  
SPORTS STAFF

Although the Bears basketball team has had an incredible season so far, going 7-1 in conference play and topping the national rankings since the start of the season, their success is not all that shocking.

Out of the four teams the Bears have played—Calgary, Saskatchewan, Lethbridge and Trinity Western—none have a winning record. The situation seems even more lopsided considering the Bears have won by at least a 21-point margin for six straight games.

With such an easy road thus far, the Bears should be cautious to not look past this weekend's opponents, the Regina Cougars (3-5 on the season). Cougar Tyler Wright leads the Canada West with 26.8 points per game and will be a dangerous threat on home court.

"We can't get in that [trouble-free] mindset because when we play a good team, we'll get burned,"

assistant coach Scott Martell said. "Regina's one of the highest scoring teams in the country and they are very streaky scorers."

"You don't know what can happen and teams always play a bit better at home," assistant coach Tim Maloney added. "But I think we have enough experience that we should be able to play to our level and hopefully get two wins to finish off the fall break."

However, the Bears showed some overconfidence last weekend against hapless Trinity Western (1-7). The Bears admit they played terribly on one night, even though it was tough to see by their 25-point margin of victory.

"I thought, Friday, we were a little sluggish in comparison to our capabilities, but on Saturday we played very well," Maloney commented.

In fact, due to the Canada West's new divisional structure, the second half of the season looks no more challenging. The only team with a winning record the Bears

will play are the Victoria Vikes on 11-12 January. Much to the chagrin of fans, these games will be played on the road.

Also, the Bears will not be playing fifth-ranked Brandon nor sixth-ranked Simon Fraser, the other two teams with 7-1 records in the conference.

That's not to say that the Bears don't deserve to be where they are. They did beat fourth-ranked Carleton 96-77 in exhibition play and have battled through tough games against Calgary. The Bears will certainly draw on these experiences against Regina this weekend and for the remainder of the season.

"They're a higher ranked team so we have to come out strong to beat them," conference assist/turnover ratio leader Ryan Baldry predicted.

Guard Stephen Parker echoed this sentiment: "We don't take any teams lightly. We have to come out mentally prepared for any type of game."



Chul-Ahn Jeong / THE GATEWAY

Golden Bear rookie Gavin Fedorak rushes a Trinity Western Spartan. Bears play in Regina this weekend.

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Main Gym

**Bears Volleyball vs. Regina Cougars**  
Friday at 8:00  
Saturday at 6:30  
Main Gym

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# What do you give the team that has everything?



Collin Gallant

With the halfway mark of the season just around the corner and the *Gateway* not publishing again until January, a lowly sports fan decides what the U of A's sports teams really need for Christmas.

## Pandas basketball:

Some time off.

While this is already a given, the team deserves some time to heal their injured players. Four of twelve starters are out of the line-up thanks to injury. Meanwhile the bench could use some rest, as they've carried a large burden going 6-2 against some tough competition. The second half won't be any easier on the team so maybe, we'll throw in a therapeutic hot-tub.

## Bears basketball:

Short-term goals.

You may have heard something about how the Bears are top-ranked and have their eyes on the national championship tournament. This is fine and dandy except that the tournament is in March were they'll face much better teams than those they sweep in CanWest. Until they run up against the tough Eastern teams they'll be forced to hand out

beatings on such "powerhouses" as the sub-500 Saskatchewan, Calgary and, most embarrassingly, Trinity Western.

## Bears football:

A time machine.

Blasting the team two or three years into the "Jerry Friesen Era" could be the only remedy for the still-out-of-the-playoffs Bears and their win-hungry fans.

Barring this, the Bears need many things, but a number-one quarterback, stickum, and a full-time kicker top the list.

## Pandas hockey:

Competition!

Since the beginning of the season the *Gateway* has been running the gamut of metaphors for crushing victories. Example: The Pandas (shellacked/gutstomped/brow-beat) the competition. So far this year the team has played 20 games outscoring opponents by a combined 140-18.

## Bears hockey:

NAIT 10 Bears 0.

I hate to say it, but what the Bears need most is a big loss, though it's doubtful that the lowly Oaks will provide that much trouble in the late-December match-up.

It's hard to criticize the 10-1-3 Bears, but there's something not right about this season. While the team is strong—arguably the strongest in the conference—desperation might be the missing ingredient.

Whatever puts them over the top, it certainly won't be the half-hearted efforts shown against

lesser teams in the first half.

We should also through in some new road jerseys. Home fans don't have to put up with them, but the current ones ain't pretty.

## Pandas soccer:

National recognition.

With an undefeated team a conference and national title, local scribes were shocked to learn that the pitch Pandas had only two players named to the All Canadian second team, in fact all of CanWest was generally ignored. An eastern scam, no doubt.

## Bears soccer:

A mulligan.

Going from last to first over one year is a crazy feat no matter how you chalk it up and a goal on their own net in the first four minutes against UBC and CanadaWest final tournament killed the turnaround success story of the year.

The team doesn't need much else except a suitable replacement for departing workhorse and captain Kurt Bosch.

## Pandas rugby:

???

Three titles; three years; what more do you need? I guess more coverage.

## Pandas volleyball:

Killer instinct.

Frustratingly close games have marred what could very easily be a better record then their current 3-7 one. In that same time the team has only lost six more sets than they've won, usually losing by close scores and at times winning

while pulling away against strong teams.

## Bears volleyball:

Lateral movement.

With all the height in the world and jumping ability to match, the Bears need to add another dimension to their solid game. The hole in the middle back could be covered with a little horizontal action, though hopefully not at the expense of their phenomenal net play.

## Pandas field hockey:

A coach.

The team will be hard pressed to find an equal replacement for departing head coach Dru Marshall.

The 25-year veteran of the program, as player and coach, stepped aside at the end of this season to concentrate upon her academic role at the university.

Aside from this, the team would benefit from a *Gateway* sports writer who knows more about the sport and has more time.

## Wrestling:

A longer briefs box (see right).

With so little space in the Sports in Briefs box this week. The *Gateway* didn't have space to wish you good luck as the team heads to lovely Saskatoon to compete in the Huskie Invitational.

This is the final competition for the grapplers before the Christmas break.

## Swimming:

More events (also see wrestling).

Good luck in Winnipeg at the Prairie Winter Invitational meet.



## Sports in Brief

The Bears basketball team is one of the few teams in action this weekend. The team heads to Regina to close out the first half of the season with two games against the Cougars.

The games can be heard live via webcast at [anysportanytime.com](http://anysportanytime.com), but, as always, driving to Regina is still an option for boosters.

## Volleyball

The Bears and the Pandas host the Regina Cougars in the Main Gym Friday and Saturday nights. The Friday games are at 6:00pm for the Pandas and 8:00pm for the Bears, with reversed times on Saturday.

## Football

The Vanier Cup game goes Saturday in Toronto's cavernous Skydome. The Manitoba Bisons take on the St Mary's Huskies in the 37th annual championship game Saturday afternoon. The Game will be aired on TSN at 3:00pm (MTN).

Bears defensive end Mitch Sutherland is the West's nominee for the JP Metras trophy (awarded to the country's outstanding lineman). Sutherland recorded three sacks and 32 tackles in 2001, alongside handling the long-snapping duties. Awards will be presented Thursday night.

## Happy trails

Next week is the extra, extra special edition, so we'll see you in 2002.

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in  
New York  
City

a feature by DAVE ALEXANDER and DAN LAZIN





42nd Street: the traffic's bad and it's hot as hell, but it's also the heart and spirit of the New York minute.

## A STANDARD OF LIVING

Dan Lazin spent last summer in New York working for *Maxim* magazine. Here, he tells of his experience being a temporary New Yorker.

Sometime in mid-June, as I sat at my desk in *Maxim* magazine's New York offices, the managing editor came by to tell the interns—which sort of included me—that we would be working on the Fourth of July, and that we would get the Friday of that week off work instead.

If someone forced me to work on Canada Day, I probably wouldn't notice and certainly wouldn't complain. But that's the difference between Canada and the States, New York in particular: New Yorkers know how to live it up, while we Edmontonians—by comparison, at least—do not. Once the editor rounded the corner back to her cubicle, John the intern exploded. "I don't think anyone else in the whole world has to work on the Fourth of July!" he exclaimed. No one ever said that intelligence and appreciating life go hand-in-hand.

But no, we shouldn't



The infamous punk influenced New York club launched the musical career of acts such as the Ramones.

demean Americans so. Ignorance is everywhere, but islands like Manhattan are not. I spent three months working there, and I've never avoided boredom for so long a stretch. Walk down Whyte

Avenue. No, don't stop in at the Black Dog. Don't go browsing at Greenwoods. Just walk, and try to stay amused while doing so, twice daily, for three straight months. In New York, it's possible.

It was fashionable for me to complain about the two-hour commute between the *Maxim* office in Midtown and my cousin's house on Staten Island, but what did I actually do? Most days, I added an hour to that journey by forgoing the subway in favor of a leisurely 65-block walk from the office to the south tip of Battery Park, just past the World Trade Center. I didn't go shopping on the way home, didn't stop to chat with strangers, didn't stop to chat with friends. There was simply no need in a town where a walk down the street is the most fascinating of all things.

Oddities in immigration law meant that I couldn't actually work as an intern, but I was certainly free to be a freelance journalist operating out of *Maxim's* office. This was fine by me, since it meant that I had no fixed hours and could come and go as I liked. And really, who wanted fixed hours in an office that was only blocks from the—the—New York Public Library, Radio City Music Hall, the Empire State Building, and the best little chili shop in all of America? Why research the sexual habits of teenagers when I could stand on a street corner attracting dirty glares from David Duchovny and Tea Leoni or satisfied, rollerblading smiles from a rollerblading Tony Danza? It's amazing that anyone gets anything done in that town.

Maybe the bustle gets to you after awhile. Could be that the stench of the curbside nut-roasters drives everyone into those skyscrapers. Perhaps the people who really live there forget what they've got and allow those insignificant things to bother them.

I love New York, and New York loves me back, but you will note that I am no longer there. I could be. Sometimes, especially of late, I wish I were. But Manhattan (my lover) plays too many games with me for me to stay. To match her majesty, I would have had to have been my best self, with no room to ever pause. It takes little effort to make peace with a city like Edmonton and to live in quiet, slow satisfaction. New York demands the most: she is not too good for herself, but she is too good for me.



# ONE MORE TOURIST

Dave Alexander, like the 37 million other yearly visitors, experienced being a tourist in the Big Apple.

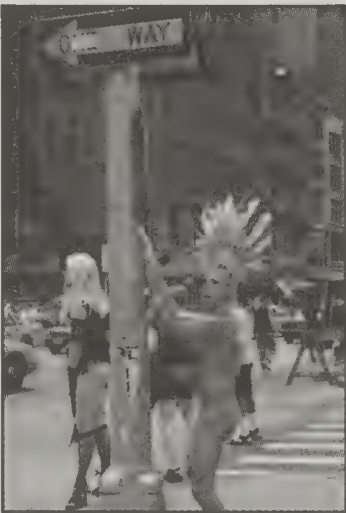
The media has encouraged a popular version of the average New Yorker as loud, obnoxious and self-centred. Yet, with nine days this past June in which to pound the pavement of the most famous city in the world, I discovered a place that constantly confirmed, denied and changed my assumptions of who a typical New Yorker could be.

Heading from our downtown hostel into the stifling heat that characterizes the city in the summer, my companions and I headed into the thick of Times Square. As one of the essential features of the city, it offers the side of New York designed to overload the senses: the underlying scent of garbage mixed with food from a variety of restaurants hits the nose

paint any space that isn't heavily guarded by barbed wire, almost every area has a personality beyond its architecture.

Over the next week we tried to soak up as much of the busier side of the city as possible: a gig at the legendary CBGB punk club, *The Rocky Horror Show* on Broadway, a trip to the Museum of Natural History, a long subway ride to Coney Island, a beautiful night time view from the Empire State building, too much shopping, and the discovery of some excellent restaurants.

It was here that we found many of the more "typical" New Yorkers in the form of impatient service industry workers who would barely make eye-contact,



The diversity of New York manifests itself in celebratory urban street-life.

were approached by people offering us directions when they saw us holding a map and we were surprised at how comfortable strangers were talking to each other in public. I felt welcome in their community and believe that they take great pride in this accessibility.

The reasons for this became clear upon visiting Ellis Island. In use from 1892 until 1957, the tiny port was the first stop for over 12 million immigrants from around the globe. I found my Grandfather and Great Grandfather listed in the museum's registry database and tried to imagine what it would be like to leave a rural farming community in Holland and be welcomed to North America by the famous skyline. It became easy to understand why US culture is so strongly tied into the concept of the "American Dream" and how this shapes the identity of New York's near-nine million inhabitants.

On the flight back I thought about the ferry ride back from Ellis Island where we discussed our frustration at not having enough time to see everything we wanted to. While snapping pictures of the skyline it was decided that a visit to the World Trade Center would have to wait until another trip.

When asked if I regret not visiting the Towers, I reply "not really." Despite what the news coverage suggests, those two structures were but a small part of a much more exciting whole. When I'm asked if I'll ever go back, I think of Ellis Island, Times Square, and all the other cinematic moments that define the city, and reply: "In a New York Minute."



The Statue of Liberty welcomes visitors to New York with its message of peace.

and the pupils shrink to accommodate all of the light thrown by neon signs, overlit building-sized billboards, and a sea of headlights from the choked street. A cacophony of music piped-out from the various businesses, people yelling, and the never-ending stream of honking from urgent motorists was dizzying. Among the tens of thousands of badly dressed tourists were the stereotypically paunchy, mustached cops and the street hustlers selling fake designer sunglasses and jewelry.

In a city as large and dense as New York, people work hard to carve out an identity, often with amazing results. From the costumed street performers in the subway stations, to the homeless people trading stories for change, to the graffiti artists who make it their duty to

fake-friendly vendors trying to secure our spending money, and others who seemed to be laying on a Brooklyn accent a little heavier for out-of-towners.

Sometimes the manner in which New Yorkers become their stereotypes is surreal. To get a better sense of the culture, we would pick a neighbourhood, take the subway there, and then walk until we were drawn into a particular place. One night we wandered down to Little Italy and found a restaurant called Cha-Cha's.

The owner, Cha-Cha, a stockier version of Dennis Franz with a pony-tail, was having a meeting outside with an old Italian in an expensive suit while a shift-eyed young man in a blazer kept watch. It was like a scene out of *Goodfellas*. We learned later that Cha-Cha

had actually played a small part in the Scorsese film. I guess sometimes New Yorkers are shaped by pop-culture about their city as much as they shape it.

New York as a whole often fosters its identity in massive displays of pride—some more flamboyant than others. We stumbled across the city's giant Gay Pride parade one afternoon and experienced an unusually cosmopolitan sense of community. For over three hours, scores of floats and wildly dressed revelers garnered cheers from tens of thousands of onlookers. Straight couples, the elderly, kids and conservative-looking businessmen smiled and flew rainbow banners. It was during the parade that we really started to notice how unusually friendly New Yorkers could be to each other and to outsiders.

On several occasions we







## Design students hock their wares

### EVENT PREVIEW

**Decorate Your Home**  
Art and Design Silent Auction  
FAB  
29 November

Heather Sosnowski  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

If anyone is looking for a little inspiration, a break from the sullen faces and glazed eyes in these dwindling daylight hours and final fleeting moments before exams plow us over, or perhaps just something to cover a blank wall, take an evening to check out the work of some of the community's skilled artists.

A combined venture of students in both the faculties of Fine Art and Design, this fall's silent auction will be exhibiting locally grown works of art from within and without the university.

Because of the open submission format, spectators will be taken on a less-structured adventure into the mind's eye of those who choose to serve the muse, than the average art show. "Student artists will be able to display some of their more experimental pieces, work that wouldn't get shown at the end of the year presentations," explains Anne-Marie Ennis, President of the Graduate committee in design.

She is also excited about some of the work being contributed by established artists in the city: "There are printmakers that are donating works who are internationally renowned, and professors who have been published globally; they are giving away their fun stuff."

Part of the aim of the auction is to get some art into the homes of those who usually wouldn't be able to afford it: students. This, however, will not detract from the qual-

ity of the pieces for sale. Anna Coe, a third year design student who also sits on the graduate committee, is confident of the calibre of art appearing at the show.

The committee is also faithful to the doctrine that art should foster more art. All funds raised from the silent auctions are used to subsidize programs for both graduates and entry level students.

Besides paying for the use of the gallery, the design executive is hoping to create scholarships for students in industrial and graphic design, as well as an awareness campaign for high-school students who may have interests in Fine Arts but may not be familiar with the faculty of Design and its programs in visual communication. According to Ennis, the committee even sponsored a few of the students so that they would be able to contribute strong work at a minimal cost.

The limitless energy of art is the perfect antidote for a world that might seem a bit weary and winter-dreary at times. Jon Wood, creator and producer of the handsome posters advertising the event, wanted to keep it simple to emphasize that it is accessible to all.

"There seems to be a lack of understanding for what goes on in [the studios]," says Ennis. "It's a good opportunity to show other students who might have an interest in this kind of thing, but just haven't been exposed to it."

It's not often that the average debt-ridden student is given an opportunity to buy original works of art. So, if you're tired of filling your meagre dwelling with mass-produced Ikea prints and selected kitsch from Goodwill, come to Decorate Your Home and bring your wallet. You might just find something beautiful and new to collect dust while your studying.

## Time Regained defies form

Metro film is based on the avant garde works of French author, Proust

### FILM REVIEW

**Time Regained**

Directed by Raoul Ruiz

Starring Catherine Deneuve,

Emmanuelle Beart, Vincent

Perez, John Malkovich

Metro Cinema

30 November-3 December

Owen Livermore

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

He was a man who wrote novels that changed the way novels were written. His work grew out of life in France in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, and kept growing until countless University professors needed only a surname to invoke it.

Throughout it all, Marcel Proust was a man never far from death, suffering from various illnesses for most of his life—hardly immortal. Raoul Ruiz's *Time Regained* is both a tribute to the famous author, and a quasi-autobiographical look into a famous mind. The lavish period piece harkens back to a time when writers were actually semi-important people.

The method of storytelling employed by Ruiz is along the same path as Proust, who worked with notions of form and narrativity, eventually laying down the template for a novel without form.

Although the film is a liberal reworking of Proust's *In Search of Lost Time*, it is certainly not *Proust For Dummies*. *Time Regained* asks much of the viewer's intellect over the expanse of the film's 162 minutes.

Starting with his last days in 1922, *Time Regained* drifts in and out of dreamlike states of being as Proust recounts his days as a



boy, a young man, and finally an accomplished writer and socialite. He stands on the periphery of the film, acting as a witness to the events he has experienced in his lifetime.

However, the key players in these events are Proust's own characters acting out scenarios from his books. Soon, the boundary between real and created people blurs, and it becomes apparent that Proust ultimately seeks an understanding of his own art.

The extravagant drawing room scenes depicted in *Time Regained* provide the viable framework of a changing society. Formerly concrete notions of class difference are questioned in the eyes of Proust (and the film), especially in the scenes set during World War I. News of hundreds of thousands of people dying in the trenches serves as meaty gossip for the rich, who are annoyed by an air raid siren disrupting their dinner party.

Shortly after this event, Proust stumbles upon a brothel of sorts where members of the lower class whip the rich who pay to partake in a gesture of self-loathing.

Generally, World War I is thought of in the film as a novel game that struggles to reinforce classism.

Some of the usual suspects of French period pieces populate the film, including Catherine Deneuve, Emmanuelle Beart, and Vincent Perez, all playing various characters from Proust's writings. Perhaps the most recognizable presence to North American viewers is that of John Malkovich, who makes a well-cast appearance as the troubled Baron de Charlus.

The ideas of Proust are not so inaccessible to viewers who have never read his books. The writer was interested in more spiritual ideas as opposed to abstract concepts and high-minded theoretical operations.

If you have only a limited understanding of Proust, you will be pleased to find that his work—and the film—confronts much more universal, earthly subjects about life and death. Keeping in mind this accessibility, the visually exciting *Time Regained* is still an art film, with an agenda to push the limits of in much the same direction as Proust did with literature.

## Painting Daisies beat out Arden for award

### GIG PREVIEW

**Painting Daisies**

A Night of Artists

Benefit for the Zebra Child

Protection Centre Society

The Arts Barn

1 December

Matt Coxford

THE CARILLON

REGINA (CUP) — The life of a Painting Daisy is not a bed of roses. Just imagine how many lame flower references various clever writers throw their way.

"Oh, it's fun," says Painting Daisies lead singer, Daisy Blue Groff. "It's just interesting to see how many analogies people can make." Almost as numerous as the analogies are people's misinterpretations of the name—whether it's Dating Panties or Flinging Pansies, they've heard them all.

Whatever you choose to call them, Outstanding Entertainers of the Year is something to consider. That's what they were called at this year's Prairie Music Awards. The band beat out a number of

big label, high-profile artists like Jann Arden, Wide Mouth Mason and Nickelback for the fan-voted award.

"It means that we have as much support as the major label artists," says Groff. "They have way more [exposure] than we do. And the fact that people took the time to vote for us is really a good indicator that we're on the right path. It's an honour."

That path she mentioned has zig-zagged across the continent, compliments of their van, affectionately dubbed Muffy the Highway Slayer.

"Being at home [in Edmonton] for two months is a long time for us, because usually even if it's just for two weeks or something, we'll be going out again," says drummer, Kim Gryba.

True to their word, they find themselves eating up more asphalt.

"We have to stand up to that award," says Gryba, talking about their current tour, which has them heading back home after winning fans out east.

"Daisy's noticing that with the press [interest] too. People talk about us." One of the things that

has people talking is the level of intimacy the band achieves with the crowd.

"[We] come down off the stage and then have the person-to-person connection," Groff says. "It takes a lot out of us but this award has shown us, that it's *so* worth it."

Being a band that features an all-female lineup and sports a flowery name can lead to some misconceptions. "A lot of people, because of our name, think that we're lightweight fluff," says Groff. "Then we come out with this big bloody-ass slide guitar solo and kick you in the ass."

The "chick rocker" label isn't a shadow they will easily emerge from.

"I don't think we're ever going to be defined as 'a band'," says Daisy. "I've hardly heard 'Oh, that's a great band.' I've heard 'That's a great girl band.' We define ourselves as a band—as much as possible."

When asked what kind of band, she laughs. "Rock with a conscience. I think it's ballsy rock. It's got balls, you know? We've got some swagger."



Heather Sosnowski / THE GATEWAY

Don't mistake this for a painting; these silver coasters are just three of the items available at Decorate Your Home, the Art and Design Silent Auction.



# ESO spreads holiday cheer with carols

## CLASSICAL PREVIEW

**Christmas Pops**  
with the Edmonton Symphony  
Orchestra  
Winspear Centre  
30 November, 1 December

Sarah Chan  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Most of us remember being in elementary school and being rounded up in December to sing carols every morning. Back then we were just thankful not to be doing work in class however numb you felt from sitting on the gym floor, but over the years these carols have become an essential part of holiday cheer for many.

With Christmas less than a month away, the Edmonton Symphony is already starting to deck the halls with Christmas music at its special concert this weekend, guaranteeing to stir up holiday cheer with the sounds of choir, handbells, and storytelling. Soprano Janet Catherine Dea says she will be singing "a mixed bag, with some Mozart, 'Oh Holy Night,' and a Christmas Ode by contemporary composer Hovanness."

"Although it's contemporary," Dea continues, "it's sort of neo-medieval, interesting and tuneful. When I was asked to do the concert, I said I wouldn't mind doing something a little bit different, and after a lot of research I thought 'oh, that's kind of cool' and Hoyt the (conductor) thought it was a good idea."

Hopefully this combination will be sufficient to get the listeners warmed up, because there is also a carol sing-along, and carols are always best when everybody is



belting out lyrics they have known since they were kids.

Dea explains that "music is very important for humans, but carols are important in particular because they're pooled together when they're sung together ... The other thing about carols that people like are that carols are very, very old ... It's about being a part of something that's still alive, that connects you to the past. It comes around every year and harkens back to a time with a lot of hope."

For those who are a little shy when it comes to singing, the Greenwood Singers and the University of Alberta's Faculty of Education handbell ringers will provide enough merry sounds to drown out any dissonant notes.

If you're not all that into music, author and playwright Roch Carrier will be present to share his story *The Sweater*, a winter favourite about a boy's wish for a hockey sweater at Christmas time.

Carols are a fun part of our holiday tradition and Christmas Pops is yet another great way to slough off studying. And, just think, now that you're old enough, you can leave any time you like.

# Get Scrooged once again

*A Christmas Carol* returns to the Citadel with a brand new adaptation

## THEATRE REVIEW

***A Christmas Carol***  
Directed by Bob Baker  
Starring Tom Wood  
Citadel Theatre  
Until 30 December

Philip Head  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

*A Christmas Carol* has become almost as sacred a part of Christmas as tree lights and eggnog benders. So for those who are as serious about their holiday experience as Scrooge is about his money, the Citadel offers their yearly production of Charles Dickens' best known work, but adds a few small twists to keep people interested.

"I would say 80 per cent is Dickens," says Tom Wood, who plays Ebenezer Scrooge. "I've written two or three other small scenes ... [but] it's such great language that it would be a mistake not to use as much Dickens as you possibly can."

Despite the difficulty of mastering turn-of-the-century language, one might not notice, as the large cast is beautifully choreographed and co-ordinated under Bob Baker's direction. With 45 cast members, many playing multiple roles, it's an ambitious production. To Colleen Feehan, who plays Fanny, "the actors are almost props and sets within themselves and they all move around Scrooge and manipulate him through his story."

For instance, Wood's portrayal of Scrooge during the first part of the play is so perfectly nasty and dour that, after his transformation, the startled reactions of his



acquaintances are understandable and funny. The large supporting cast all turn out excellent performances. Julien Arnold gives a particularly moving and realistic performance as Bob Cratchit. In the scene where Bob breaks down following Tiny Tim's death, there were tears shed in the theatre.

Tiny Tim and the other children in the cast handle their roles very professionally as well, although Wood admits that he was wary about working with so many children.

"I think it would be a bit like baby-sitting snakes," he says, adding that he quickly changed his opinion. "They're wonderful. It's cliché to say it, but we became like a great big happy family."

A revolving Victorian village, moving staircases, a church complete with stained-glass windows, and a Christmas tree that springs out of the ground backs-up the performances with sumptuous visuals. The special effects work to

create an atmosphere that is appropriately rustic despite futuristic technology like the fibre optics in the Ghost of Christmas Past's costume.

However, amidst the splendour, there are a few points at which the acting becomes overly melodramatic—a serious danger in this oft-performed play.

The scene in which a young Scrooge and his fiancé break up is overacted, while Scrooge's one-sided conversation with a silent, twelve-foot-tall, Ghost of Christmas Future feels forced. This, combined with the fact that Wood's attempts at crying almost sound like childish laughter unfortunately diminish the impact of one of some of the most important scenes in the play.

Despite these few problems, the Citadel's version of *A Christmas Carol* will make you feel all warm and happy inside without insulting your intelligence, and maybe even help you forget about that embarrassing eggnog hangover.

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# Read between the words

Book by U of A prof explores the deeper meanings of Canadian poetry



**BOOK REVIEW**  
**LYRIC/ANTI-LYRIC: Essays**  
**on Contemporary Poetry**  
by Douglas Barbour  
NeWest Press

Sean Townsend  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Depending on how it's handled, criticism of art can be seen in one of two ways: it's either pedantic, pretentious overanalysis—the literary equivalent of killing the goose to see how it lays the golden eggs—or it's a useful way of discovering meaning, increasing enjoyment, and becomes a pleasure to read in its own right. This is especially true of poetry criticism, in which the critic is as much an interpreter as a judge of quality.

*Lyric/Anti-lyric*, a collection of

"essays on contemporary poetry" by U of A English professor Douglas Barbour, is an example of poetry criticism done right.

Representing two decades of Barbour's criticism of modern and postmodern poetry from Canada, Australia, New Zealand and America, the essays form links in a persuasive and engaging chain of thought about what poetry can and should do.

The book begins with Barbour's well-known essay, "Lyric/Anti-lyric: Some Notes About a Concept," that defines various ways that modern and postmodern poetry, has attempted to question (and often reject) traditional poetic forms—rhythm, meter, structure, voice, even language itself. In the next few essays, Barbour finds examples of this lyric/anti-lyric strain in the work of several Canadian poets (including bpNichol, Anne Wilkinson, Phyllis Webb, Sharon Thesen, Michael Ondaatje, and Barbour's fellow poet/professor, ED Blodgett).

Later essays compare this Canadian modernism with similar trends in Australia and New Zealand. Barbour's idea is that the three countries share a unique postcolonial experience that makes the questioning of old traditions and authorities an understandable, if not inevitable, outcome. The last essay, on American poet Susan Howe, shows just how far such questioning and experimentation have gone.

Barbour describes himself as a "formalist," in that he is interested

in the form of the poetry rather than the context or authorial intention, in his preface. He lives up to that label throughout the book.

He isn't interested in showing off his literary prowess by divining obscure meanings in the poems he examines; rather, he approaches them in terms of language and sound, aim and effect, holding each poem up to scrutiny just long enough to make his point, then move on.

Barbour is a conversational, self-effacing writer and a refreshingly humble critic, yet his passion about his subject is never in doubt; his voice becomes that of a genial and thoroughly knowledgeable tour guide, taking you through well-travelled but well-loved territory. That isn't to say the essays always avoid what Barbour calls "a certain academic fetishism." Familiarity with Ezra Pound is a necessity, and Barbour is too forgiving of stuff that sounds like it came from one of those do-it-yourself-poetry fridge magnets.

Ultimately, though, *Lyric/Anti-lyric* succeeds in its stated goal of being "generally clear, and open to the reading of non-experts." But the book is more than just accessible; it's an insightful and articulate look at an art form that is still vital, still evolving. It invites you to pick it up at odd intervals, read a couple of poems, and savour the nuances Barbour reveals in them.

With any luck, it might even send you to the bookstore in search of some of this country's most talented and challenging artists.

# It's so hard to say goodbye

Studio Theatre's *Borders of Paradise* deals post-high-school angst

**THEATRE**  
**PREVIEW**

*Borders of Paradise*  
Directed by James DeFelice  
Starring Matt Kloster,  
and Danny Dorosh  
29 November to 8 December

Magda Koper  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Remember those first months after high-school graduation, when the rush of adrenaline from final exams and the hangover from the grad party had worn off? Remember the fear, the feeling of disorientation, the uneasy sense of impending responsibility? This is what *Borders of Paradise*, the third play of Studio Theatre's 2001 season, is all about.

According BFA drama student Matt Kloster, "in this play, [writer] Sharman Macdonald deals with that concept of people going their different directions and wanting those closest to them to go with them. Thus tension boils as characters struggle with guilt of separation, and finally acceptance of separation."

The play takes place on a beach in England, where five young men are on a surfing vacation. They are freshly out of high school and challenged with the question: what

comes next? What will happen with the rest of their lives? This coming-of-age story shows us one day of the lives of youth on the edge of adulthood and their way of accepting the uncertainties.

Kloster who plays Charlie and Danny Dorosh who plays Cot, see the themes of the play as parallel to themes they are dealing with immediately in their lives. "We have been working together in this class of twelve [students], for the past three intense years and have become a family," says Dorosh. "This is why this play takes on a special meaning for us, it makes us identify more with the issues of the characters because, in real life, in seven months we will also graduate and will be asking ourselves the same question of what's next? Where to from here?"

"This [play] is about dealing with growing up, dealing with separating, and each person going their own different way. Just about how life is going to change," says Kloster. "Everyone has to struggle with these issues, especially when they get out of high school."

Even though the play is about 5 kids resolving their issues out on a beach while surfing and hooking up with Scottish girls, it is deeper and more serious than their motives suggest. The central theme in *Borders of Paradise* is the choice of whether to dive right into life or hold back, fearing the

consequences. It also parallels life choices with surfing, diving into the waves and living for the moment.

The complexity of the story is remedied by the director's careful eye for detail. "Jim [DeFelice] is an amazing director," says Dorosh. "He started us in one place, slowly put the layers on, and throughout each scene we started to develop the different levels of emotion and tension."

Since the play istakes place on in England, the complex task of maintaining their balance on real sand that fills the stage and perfecting the British dialect proved to be the most enjoyable part of rehearsals for the young actors.

The pop culture themes discussed also speak to the young cast. "They talk about Kurt Cobain and we sing Nirvana's 'Come as you are,'" says Kloster. "It is a play about young people that I can relate to on many different levels and it is how I felt coming out of high-school."

Indeed, he believes that the youth and vitality, as well as the universal themes of the play, are what will make it a fun experience for all. "The audience can expect a little of everything. There is a love story, friendship, surfing. It is a very powerful play. It will take you on a ride; you will be laughing, and then you feel sorry for the people. Be prepared to have fun and use some imagination."

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## Clutch stays down-to-earth despite fantasy influences

### GIG PREVIEW

**Clutch**  
with Biohazard  
Dinwoodie Lounge  
1 December

Kris Berezanski  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Neil Fallon isn't trying to be Jimmy Hendrix and he doesn't much care about being bigger than Jesus. "I can't take rock 'n roll too seriously," declares the vocalist for the metal band, Clutch. "Having been in the business for nine years, I know that some of the things people try to perpetrate are just laughable. I would never want to be in the shoes of someone who has got a Messiah complex."

Still, nine long years of constant touring have paid off for the Maryland quartet. Formed in 1994, they began as a hardcore metal act. Since then, their sound has progressed to the southern fuzz rock through a trio of albums, culminating with this year's *Pure Rock Fury*.

As Clutch nears the end of the *PRF* tour, a new album is waiting to be made. "It'll follow [*Pure Rock Fury*] in only that we have the same four guys, but we've really been experimenting with more blues-oriented acoustic stuff," Fallon states.

The change brings them closer to the style of their idols: "We definitely have an influence from Southern rock bands like [Lynyrd]

Skynyrd and the Allman Brothers, we grew up listening to their music," Fallon says. "We're a rock n' roll band and we appreciate the older bands because they were minimal in their approach—the music had to carry all the weight. That's even going to be more the case on our next record because with the *PRF* stuff we've beaten it to the ground, we're thinking of stripping it down even more."

The reason for the decision may lie in the desire to overcome the boredom of repetition. "It's hard to go up on stage and play a certain song for the 15th time," Fallon confesses, "you have to tell yourself over and over that it's your 15th time, but for the people who watching it may be their first time. You only have one chance to make a first impression."

One thing that immediately sets Clutch apart from the rest of the hard-rock scene are Fallon's lyrics that tell a story instead of relying simply on melodramatic emotional strains. These stories deal with everything from ice cream to gnomes to Visigoths. "The actual story line I try to make abstract enough that the listener has to put their two cents in," he notes.

The lyrics come from Fallon's sci-fi and fantasy influences. In fact he's working on his own fantasy tale. "I'm writing with a guy named David McKay," he says. "[The story] centres around an alchemist and his apprentice and features some of the characters from various Clutch songs."

# Christmas flicks can save you from seasonal torture

## A&E OPINION Christmas Movies

Erika Thorkelson  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Don't let all the lovely, fluffy snow and whirlwind of Coca Cola advertisements fool you: Christmas is torture. If your family is like mine and you discovered long ago that you don't have much to say to each other once the yelling goes away, you may have already discovered the wonderful escapist power of movies at Christmas. These gems of the past have saved me time and again from painful discussions about who will be doing the dishes and successive abortive attempts to explain why I don't eat turkey.

***It's a Wonderful Life* (1946):** This movie is a bench-mark for cheese. That being said, if the story of how kind-hearted George Bailey discovers his self-worth with the help of a junior angel named Clarence doesn't break the ice in your cold heart, you might as well give up now and hang yourself with some Christmas lights. Frank Capra may not have been a deep thinker, but he sure did know how to make the world seem better than it really is. This movie might be just the thing to trick you into thinking you love the people around you for a couple of hours after it's touching finale.

***A Christmas Carol* (1954):** Alastair Sim's flawless portrayal of Scrooge in this British production shaped the way we look at the Charles Dickens novel. The scenes with Jacob Marley's ghost rattling his chains continue to be genuinely frightening almost 50 years after they were filmed.

I also have to include a necessary nod for 1992's *The Muppet Christmas Carol* because, truthfully, my first love was Kermit the



Frog. If he can have kids with Ms Piggy without any serious genetic problems then maybe I've got a chance.

***White Christmas* (1954):** I'm probably the only person under 50 who was a)heartbroken and b)surprised when she found out that Danny Kaye was gay. Nevertheless, this 1954 classic about how WWII two veterans bring joy to their beloved ex-commander and find love along the way continues to be one of the best musicals of all time. Kaye is hilarious as usual beside Bing Crosby's stone-faced straight man (in the classical Hollywood sense) and Rosemary Clooney (that's George's aunt) and Vera-Ellen Westmeyer Rohe are charming as the sisters who catch the guys' eyes. The romance might be enough to distract you from your younger siblings' pleas to open their presents early.

***Rudolph, the Red-Nosed Reindeer* (1964):** Lovably roly-poly Burl Ives narrates this tale of a group of misfits who make good in Christmas Town. Through the magic of stop motion animation, we are shown how the most famous reindeer of all rocketed

from obscurity to fame with the help of an obscure genetic defect in the form of a nose-like-a-light-bulb. I still giggle when I hear the bleep-bleep noise the nose makes when it flares up.

***The Nightmare Before Christmas* (1993):** Tim Burton proves that there is someone out there with an even more fucked up view of Christmas than mine. An animated musical about one skeleton's search for the meaning of Christmas, it features an eerie score by Danny Elfman (who also does the voice of the Pumpkin King, Jack Skellington among others) that makes it the most chilling Christmas movie ever made. Not to mention that the morbid aesthetic will look pretty cool through the haze of the drugs you take to survive the holidays.

So as you suffer through the cruelties of maintaining family cheer, just remember that I will be smugly hidden in a dark movie theatre beside my thankfully incommunicado mother and brother, taking in *Lord of the Rings*. It may not be a holiday film, but at least it keeps 'em quiet. Merry fuckin' Christmas.

## ULTRA MEGA SOCIAL SUPER INTERCOURSE

**woodabeen**  
with guests  
the Rev

Friday, 30 November

Edmonton's answer to emo, woodabeen, is headlining a show this Friday at the Rev.

Having previously opened for the likes of Molly's Reach, Les Tabernacles, and Smoother, these hometown heroes feel they're ready for top billing. Will their covers and catchy tunes win over the cold-hardened crowd?

**Guilt Trip**

with Preshure Point, Darryl's  
Grocery Bag, Niceguy,  
The Good Guys  
Orange Hall

Friday, 30 November

The nice thing about some of the bands playing at Orange Hall Friday is that they are so into their music, they don't even need to use a spell checker.

Actually, spelling is probably the

last thing these people are thinking about. But I'll tell you what they are thinking about: skate punk and punk rock, and lots of it.

**Kim Mitchell**  
with guests  
Red's

Friday, 30 November

Do you have a need to feel the glow of those patio lanterns? Do you sometimes wish you were in a RocklandWonderland. Well, fret not, kids; you're just doing your rock 'n roll duty. You know, creating that buzz, buzz, buzz?

Mullets will certainly abound at this concert but the real feature will be Mitchell's skirted-eggshell. Yeeow!

**Other Voices Launch**

The Room 6-313H, Corporate  
Training Centre, Grant  
MacEwan downtown  
Monday, 3 December

The fine folks over at *Other Voices* are launching their Winter

2001 issue, and you're invited. They promise food, entertainment, and a reading or two. You journalist-types and enquiring mind-types might want to look into this, assuming you're not sick to death from studying.

**Art From the Unknown**  
Arts Barns  
Wednesday, 5 December

Put on thanks to Alberta NDP Leader Raj Pannu, the Art From the Unknown exhibit showcases lesser-known local visual artists. However, it isn't just limited to visual art. The show will also include music. This is your chance to support struggling individuals that make up Edmonton's independent art scene. Don't be a Scrooge!

**The Watchmen**  
with guests  
The Rev

Friday, 14 December

A lot of people think that the

Watchmen have strayed too far from their rock 'n roll roots with their latest album, *Slomotion*. I agree

They went from hot rock 'n roll to lame drum-machine beats, losing their drummer, Sammy Kohn, in the process. I can respect the fact that they want to grow and try something new, but there's something to be said for "oldies but goodies."

If you see these guys, bring some rotten fruit with you, and chant "We Want Sammy!" all night long.

**Lord of the Rings**  
starring Elijah Wood,  
and Ian McKellan  
directed by Peter Jackson  
Opening Wednesday,  
19 December

You've read all the books, you speak Elvish, and you tried making your ears pointy using a pair of pliers. There's just one thing left to do: see *The Fellowship of the Ring* as soon as it comes out.

I'm going to level with you guys.

If you don't see this, you're an idiot. Forget about trying to ignore hype, and subvert the mainstream; this is going to be one of the biggest movie events of your lifetime. Unless you live in a vacuum, you should see this film.

**Christmas & Chanukah & Kwanzaa & All that other good stuff**  
with guests

25 December, 9-17 December,  
& 26 December to 1 January  
respectively

Spend time with family and friends. Drink, dine, and exchange gifts. Stay safe this Holiday season, and have a terrific break. I'll see all of you cats at New Year's, where I will no doubt "kick it up a notch." Somehow. Cheers.

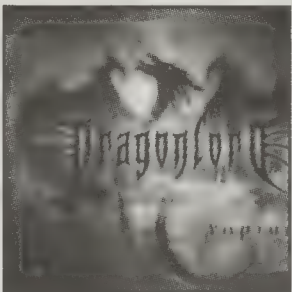
Compiled by  
Adam

"not that kinda ho!"  
Rozenhart





**Charlotte Church**  
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**DragonLord**  
*Rapture*  
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**Hair of the Dog**  
*Ignite*  
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[www.spitfirerecords.com/hairDog.htm](http://www.spitfirerecords.com/hairDog.htm)

**Heather Adler**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

**Ryan Willman**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Fifteen-year-old Welsh singing prodigy Charlotte Church returns to the super-star-soprano junket with a 15-track disc chock full of classical arrangements, powerful ballads, and Celtic-influenced hits.

The album is immaculately produced, the songs are carefully crafted, and the vocals sound seamlessly melodic. Church shows off a vocal range more refined than singers twice her age and graces the cover with her cute-as-a-button million dollar lip-gloss smile. There's not a fault to be found in the harpists and renowned flamenco guitarists accompanying the talents of this songstress.

Indeed, all this angelic perfection is probably what led me to hate this CD so very, very much. In fact, I'm going to go put it in my microwave and make myself a new coaster so I have a place to rest my half-empty 40oz bottle of inadequacy because I'll never be able to relate to this one.

Sure, some of the guys from DragonLord hail from older bands such as Testament. And sure, Testament was a kick-ass conglomerate. But there's a reason why it's called '80s rock.

DragonLord's album, *Rapture*, is a throw back to the virgin years of metal, complete with the screaming vocals and rebellious long hair. This group has chosen to ignore the current market for reality-based metal, favouring a more fantastical style. As a result, *Rapture* would be more alluring to those who voluntarily went to see *Dungeons & Dragons*.

DragonLord's music is largely drawn from some fantasy world of white and dark magic typically involving some elf-like creatures. But those are just the lyrical images. The actual music is a compilation of jagged guitars with power drumming that hammers out fast, electrifying noise. In the background of this rage, a balance is achieved with some melodic synthesizers, weaving church-organ-like melodies. The first instrumental track, composed of these haunting background moans, is reminiscent of early Black Sabbath ballads. Thus, a little imagination is helpful to appreciate this album.

I have an active imagination, and this album still seems a little scary to me, but besides the music, I have to give credit for the amazing artwork.



**David Bridie**  
*Act of Free Choice*  
EMI Music Australia  
[www.davidbridie.com.au](http://www.davidbridie.com.au)

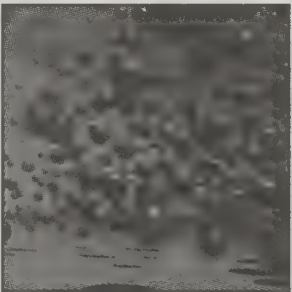
**Lenore Turner**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

With the release of his new album *Act of Free Choice*, it's clear that David Bridie isn't afraid to test the waters of the musical unknown. He mixes unusual sounds such as children laughing, short-wave radio discussions, and ocean waves, to create a rich ambient mixture.

The disc sets a tone of tranquility and peace. One can't help but be soothed by his warm, comforting lyrics, such as those in his song "The Last Great Magician": "calm down your troubles / lay down with me / Mulukuwasi, good witch of the sea." He seems to be reaching out to comfort and reassure.

Bridie reminds his listeners of Earth's quiet wisdom, using dripping water and conch shells to recreate tropical island sounds—the sounds of nature producing a magnificent calming effect.

This is Australian musician/songwriter David Bridie's first solo album, although he's been dabbling in soundtrack music for over fifteen years. *Act of Free Choice* is great listening for yoga and nature-bonding, generally anytime you're in search of solace and serenity.



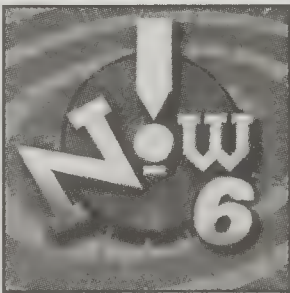
**The Cranberries**  
*Wake Up and Smell The Coffee*  
Universal  
[www.cranberries.ie](http://www.cranberries.ie)

**Heather Adler**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

It sounds like the Cranberries recorded this CD in that pre-cafeinated sloth-like state that hits us all before we get a jolt of coffee in the morning.

The disc is the musical equivalent of wandering around in your Snoopy PJs and digging the sleep out of your eyes. It's boring, uncreative, sloppy and completely monotonous. The powerful, raspy voice that gave us compelling hits like "Salvation" and "Zombie" in the early '90s has been traded in for a softer croon better suited for relaxation sleep tapes.

Hit the snooze button on this one; it's definitely not worth waking up for.



**Various Artists**  
*Now! 6*  
EMI Music Canada  
[www.emimusic.ca](http://www.emimusic.ca)

**Karen Hackenbrook**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

## CULTURA OBSCURA

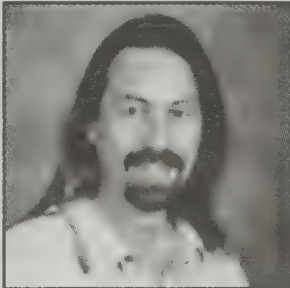


**Star Wars Nativity Scene**

**Adam Rozenhart**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

How different would Christianity have been if Jesus were an Ewok? "Sacrilegious," you say? Well, some people love Christmas and *Star Wars* so much, that combining the two seemed like the next logical step.

## SITE UNSEEN



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**Kim Steele**  
ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT STAFF

Feeling lonely? Looking for that "very easy going, soft hearted, open minded" Teddy Bear Dude? Or how about a "down to earth, fun, high-spirited" Buff Dude?

Are you the type of lady who likes to "let bygones be bygones," who truly believes that guns don't kill people, that people kill people, but don't really care? Are you

From time to time, Hair of the Dog actually sounds very similar to some newer Metallica albums. Not to say that the band doesn't have its own style, though; the devil paraphernalia strewn about the liner notes attests to that. Indeed, many of the songs touch on issues of fighting temptation or "takin' on demons," or at the very least, use some sort of devilish imagery.

Even though these guys are not well known, they don't sound like some long-lost garage band. The album is professionally produced as far as sound quality and musicianship go. If you're into gritty heavy-metal riffs and blazing guitar solos, you'll likely enjoy *Ignite*.

As Canada's number-one-selling pop compilation, the ironically titled *Now! 6* series brings yet another mix of last year's music. Featuring Nelly Furtado, Uncle Kracker, soul-Decision, and the Moffatts, *Now! 6* is aimed at preteens who just can't get enough the MuchMusic Countdown. Although the disc does contain some decent artists like Coldplay, Bran van 3000 and U2, it doesn't make up for the fact that listeners are forced to weed through 40 minutes of overplayed crap. From Lifehouse's "Hanging By A Moment" to Janet Jackson's "All For You," *Now! 6* is perfect for anyone who didn't listen to the radio or watch TV over the past year.

The creators of this Sci-fi crèche have what appear to be Luke and Leia filling the role of Joseph and Mary, and Han Solo, Darth Vader and Admiral Ackbar as the three wise men.

Although the roles that each figure plays were obviously not very well thought out, this is still a delightfully obscure Christmas treat. And the parallel between *Star Wars* and the *Bible* should be obvious; I'm mean, Luke was kind of like Jesus, only more whiny and way dorkier. But no worries, because God is love, right?

Perhaps the most amusing addition to this nativity scene is that Jabba the Hutt, "vile gangster" is in attendance, as well as his court jester Salacious Crumb—as an angel. There is one serious error with this scene, however, and that is the inclusion of the robot dog from *Battlestar Galactica*. Whatever ... Merry Christmas to all, and may the Force be with you.

attracted to carefree men with a wild streak, perhaps an out and out evil streak, who live by nobody's rules but their own, save for the odd curfew, lockdown, or week spent in the hole?

Well, stop licking your sorry-ass broken-heart inflicted wounds and start clicking your mouse, fast and furiously, to meet the Jail Dude of your dreams.

You can search for your guilty pleasure by state, age range, or ethnicity, but sadly not by rap-sheet specs. My search brought up many Jail Dude profiles, including Gregory who likes "massaging" his way through those hot conjugal visits, and perhaps also through those long, hard nights when rooming with a fellow Jail Dude who's feeling just a little tight.

Alas, not all of these Dudes are looking for someone to rub down; some are just looking for a friend, a pen pal, a confidante. You could be that lucky lady. Just be sure to check out the Dude of the Month. New Jail Dudes are added weekly!

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Christmas week 22-29 December, two-bedroom chalet. Sleeps six. In Canmore. Reasonably priced. 430-6994.

### Services

Getting into medical school? Tips, tricks and secrets. E-mail Ben at benbarankin@yahoo.com

JAPANESE DRUMMING WORKSHOPS  
Share in this rigorous, choreographed activity for fun or potential membership with Kita No Taiko. 9, 14 & 16 January

(evenings); 13 January (daytime). \$35. Minimum age 14. Ph: 431-0300; fax: 431-0406; e-mail: knt@ecn.ab.ca

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### Volunteers Wanted

Strive toward a sustainable Canada. University of Alberta Green Party Club, meets each Thursday at 5:00pm in the main foyer of the Agriculture and Forestry building.

### Personals

Are you ready for anything? Free pro-choice counseling and pregnancy testing, called planned parenthood 423-3737.

### Three Lines For A Toonie (\$1 of which goes to the Food Bank)

Free Stuff and find out how you can make \$ on the web. [www.ezinfocenter.com/2901179/](http://www.ezinfocenter.com/2901179/)

MIN ENGG CLUB RAFFLEWIN A DVD PLAYERTIX \$2 IN CAB BY TUCK SHOP

Sniffle. Last TLFT before Christmas.

You know who sucks. People suck. That includes you. Yes YOU!

Hey Gilligan, you know who stole your car parts? I stole them! HA! Um wait no I didn't.

Christmas time!!! Eat drink and be merry, or be hairy or scary... and maybe eat, but not me. Hell with it, just drink! (copious amounts of rum make egg nog bearable)

Sorry I missed the stupid deadline. With that many of them, a birthday's super hard to miss. Anyways, have a belated happy birthday Ahmad!!!

Dan sent an "e-mail bomb" when 15.

## ASTRONOWATCH

I am deeply sorry about the lack of AstronoWatch on Tuesday, but I was at death's door. Now fully recovered, I can once again contribute my special brand of AstronoKnowledge to this fine publication.

Since there's not much chance of the sky being clear tonight, I'll tell you about some recent astronomy news instead of what you won't be able to see tonight.

The count of 'killer asteroids' has increased again. The estimate on 1km near-Earth asteroids has risen to 1250. However, do not fear, as we will no doubt be dead before one decides to hit us.

Due to my interest in the solar wind, caused by my recent term paper, I was excited to learn that the Genesis spacecraft has reached it's destination between the Earth and the Moon and is now ready to begin collecting samples of the solar wind. It will then bring these samples back to Earth to be studied in 2004.

Also, heads up for NASA's first shuttle launch since they have started bombing Afganistan. Endeavor launches on 29 November.

*No silly, it's not astrology; it's astronomy. AstronoWatch is a weekly feature published every Tuesday. Our resident astronomer, Kati Kovacs, sets the stage for the cosmos and invites you up to the Campus Observatory every Thursday evening at 8:00pm. Just take the elevator in the Physics Building up to the sixth floor and then the stairs up to the seventh floor. Walk out on to the roof and check out the view with the University's telescopes.*

# Merry Christmas

## and have a gloriously happy New Year

From your friends over at the Newspaper-making Factory

# The New York Times

If great newspapers could think,  
they'd probably think alike.



**THE GATEWAY**  
For the love of God, get a hand out



# What Is Your Education Worth?

Getting educated is not just sitting in a classroom and listening to a professor, it is what you make of it. The U of A Students' Union, in conjunction with its federal lobby group, CASA ([www.casa.ca](http://www.casa.ca)) feels that education is the most important factors in today's society. Without universities and the advancements they make, the world and Canada would not be what they are today. This can be illustrated at the U of A through finding a cure for Hepatitis B and producing the Edmonton Protocol for diabetes which may lead to a cure in the future. If you take a hard look you will see exactly how Education Builds a Nation, whether it is through research, developing the great critical minds of tomorrow or being involved in the campus or community. Post secondary education is important in all aspects of our culture and society. Now you have an opportunity to reveal what education means to you and how it has affected your life.

Define what education means to you and the way it applies to building a nation and you could win part of your tuition for next term.

1st Prize: \$1000 Tuition voucher.

2nd Prize: \$500 Tuition voucher.

3rd Prize: \$250 Tuition voucher.

Contestant's names will also be drawn to win one of 15 CASA hoodies.

## Rules and Regulations

- The essay must focus on how Education Builds a Nation through any forum you feel appropriate. It is an essay, it must be 1 to 8 pages; pictures, poems and short stories will also be accepted. Pictures of art can be accepted as long as they have an explanation of 1-3 pages explaining it. Video tapes as well as Power Point will be accepted as well. You can focus on the history and past, our current situation in Canada, how education is important to you or how education will help us build a nation that will be successful in the 21st century. You can focus on any facet of our Nation, the economy, culture, politics, sports and so on.
- An important rule is that anything is an option, just approve it through the VP External, Kory Zwick, at [casa@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:casa@su.ualberta.ca).
- All contestants must submit their explanation of their project by December 17th to the VP External offices in 2-900 St. Albert Ave. Kory Zwick; or email to [casa@su.ualberta.ca](mailto:casa@su.ualberta.ca).
- To enter you must be a current University of Alberta student attending school in the Winter Session.
- Only a limited number of projects will be accepted so get yours in early.
- Each contestant can only enter the contest once.
- If it is a group project the prize will be split among the group members, and all members of the group must submit their names with their project explanation. Please no groups larger than 4.
- Projects are due January 1st and the winner will be announced during CASA Awareness Week January 1st to 18th.

# CASA

education builds a nation

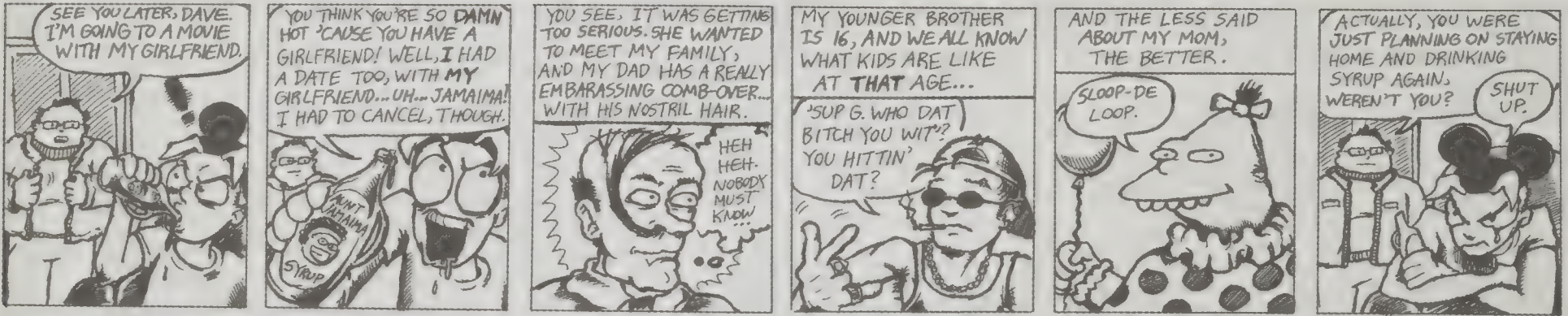


[www.casa.ca](http://www.casa.ca)

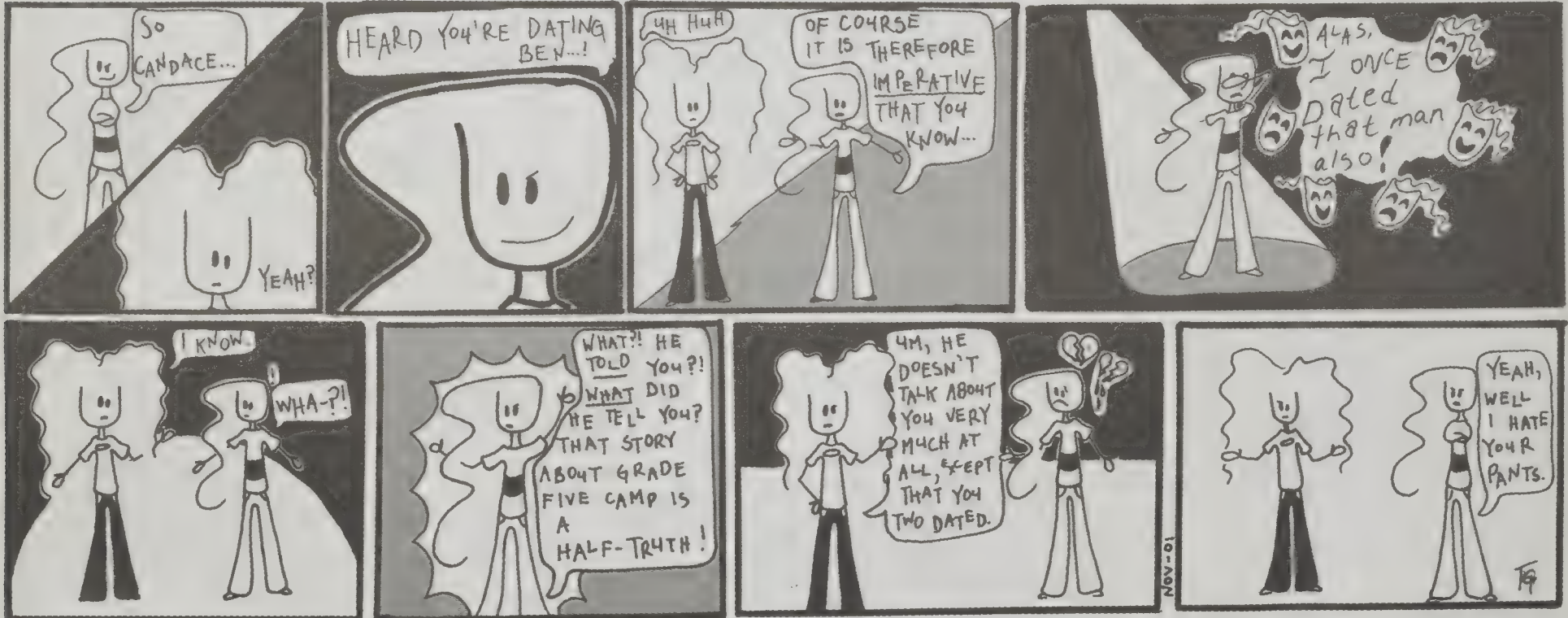




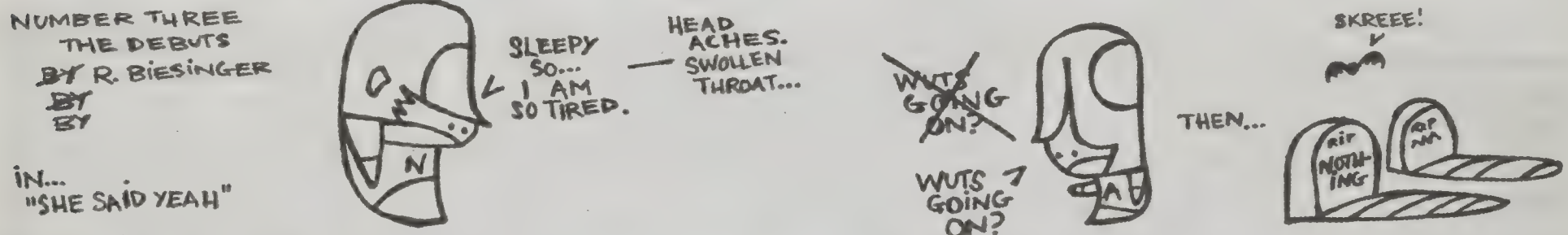
Misanthropic Mouse by Dan Ripley



Heyben by Tracy Greene



The Debuts by Raymond Biesinger



Brooklyn and Polar by Alexis Labarda



The Political Funnies by Ryan Peniuk

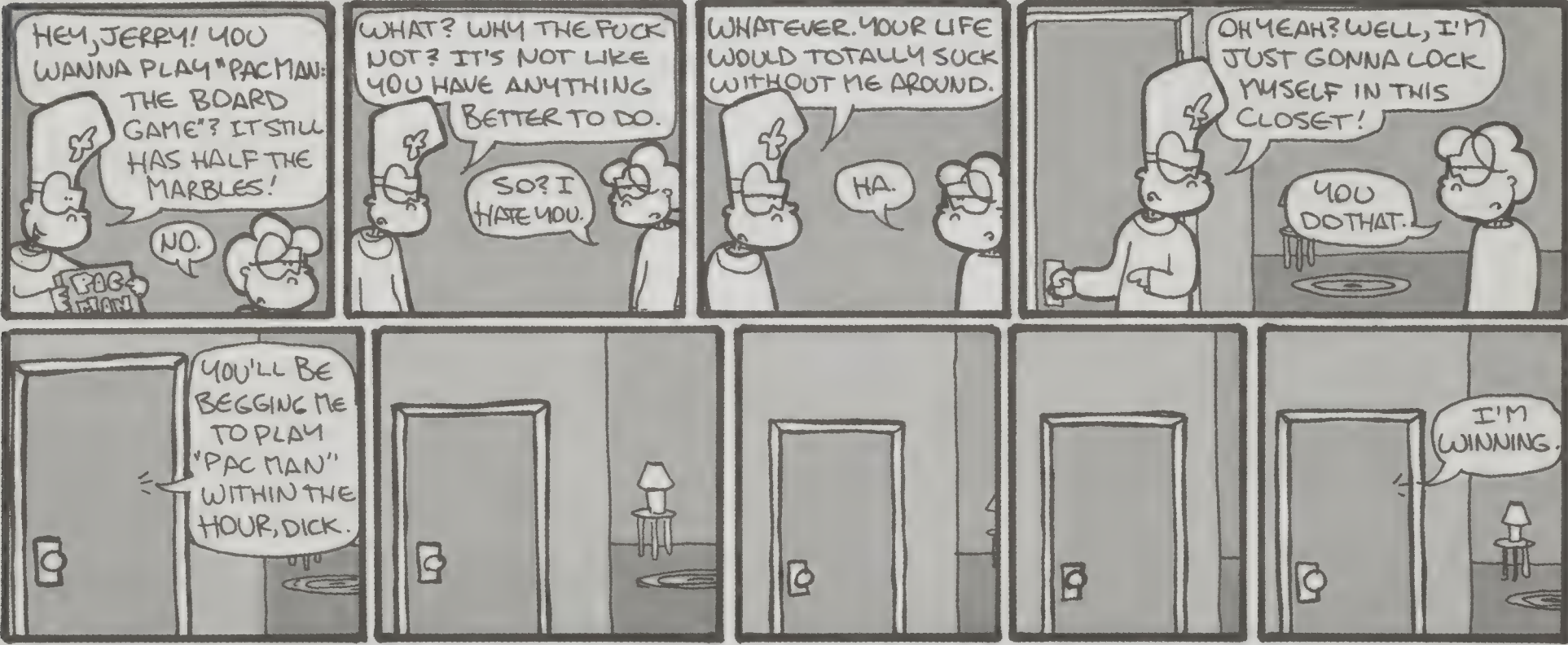




Bobby and the Munchkins by Someguy



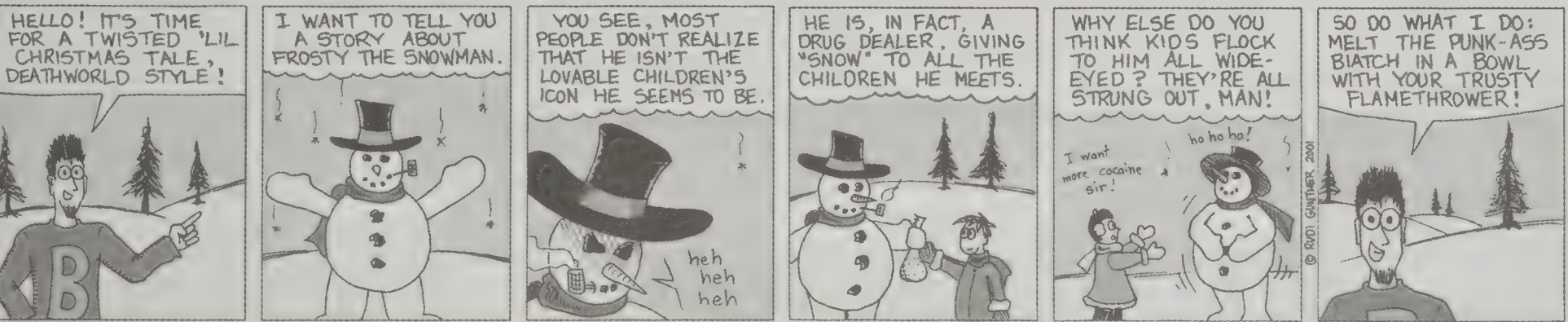
Lazer Comix 2020 by Chris Boutet



Space Cat High by Fish Griwkowsky

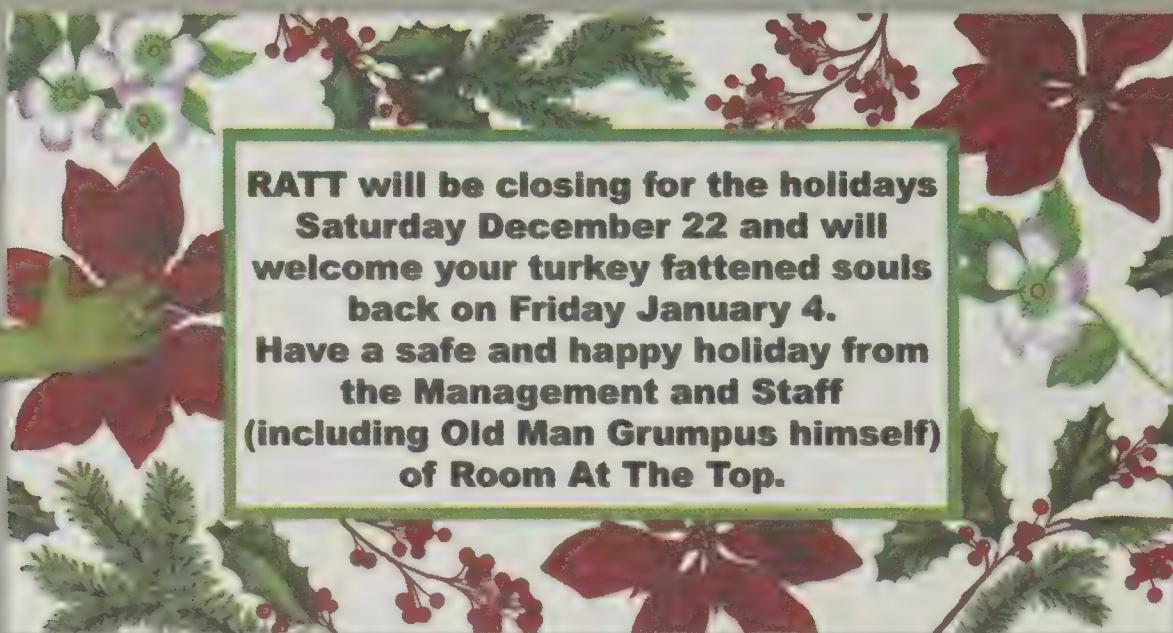


It's a Deathworld Kind of Christmas! by Rudi Gunther

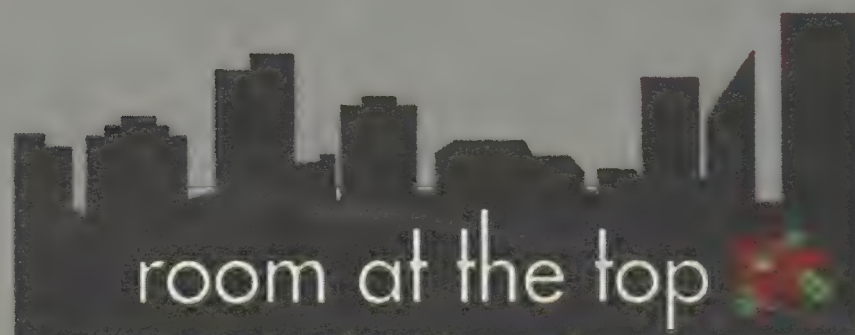




# Ho Ho Hurry In!



**RATT will be closing for the holidays  
Saturday December 22 and will  
welcome your turkey fattened souls  
back on Friday January 4.  
Have a safe and happy holiday from  
the Management and Staff  
(including Old Man Grumpus himself)  
of Room At The Top.**



# Inga's New Year's Ball

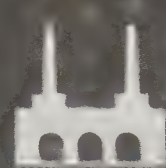
December 31st

8:00pm \$15

Creative Black Tie

Tickets on sale December 1st- 23rd at the PowerPlant

We will be closed for Christmas Saturday Dec 22nd and will reopen Wednesday Jan 2nd



# PowerPlant

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# WILD WILD WOW

## ROLLING TUMBLE WILD

Where to start? Best place I think, would be with a huge thank you to everyone. Wild Wild WOW was a blast. We beat the gloomy weather and had a great time!

I would like to thank the WOW Coordinators for coming out to put together Wild Wild WOW. All their hard work and dedication truly paid off in the end, and I am in debt for all of their efforts.

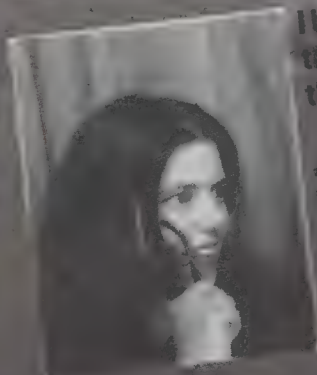
I would like to thank the Orientation staff for putting together a fantastic Orientation 2001 and for not skipping a beat and continuing to help out with the Week of Welcome the next day.

I would like to thank all of the Students' Union staff for putting up with all of the boxes, the crazy people wandering around assembling things and with my lack of sleep. You are a great group of people with a lot of patience.

A big thank you goes out to all the volunteers. The volunteers are the heart of WOW and I would like to thank them for all of their help.

I would like to thank Alexis for giving it her all! Thank you for bringing me treats, thank you for being my alarm clock and thank you for always having a big smile on your face!

To all of my friends who came out of the woodwork to help out with this event - I am eternally grateful! If there is one memory that I will take with me, it is all of the people who came out to make this event such a success. Thank you for the coffee, the sugar, the freedom to get some sleep and all the other treats!



I have been on this campus for 8 years. It is with Wild Wild WOW that I hang up my hat. It has been an amazing ride! I would like to thank everyone for everything! I wish everyone all the best!

Jennifer Wente  
Vice President Student Life





# WILD WILD WOW

A 2001  PRODUCTION

Hey Y'all!

When asked to remember WILD WILD WOW, the first image that came to mind was the amazing people. I had a blast during Week of Welcome. I don't think that I've ever played so hard, slept so little, or had the chance to meet as many cool individuals as I did during this first week of school. You guys are amazing. To everyone who helped make this happen without a hitch (or maybe just a couple small ones) THANK YOU - you're my heroes!

I need to begin with my brilliant and talented WOW Planning Committee. You guys never cease to amaze me. This year was the WOW of teamwork. Each of our multi-talented coordinators went the extra mile to help us out, being flexible and cheerful regardless of what needed to be done. To Carla, Chris, Dale, Dan, David, Jon, Leah, Leanne, Marino, Mat, Sam, and Travis - you guys were grade A, gold star, 10 out of 10, pure gold, coordinator goodness! I couldn't have asked for a more enthusiastic or committed team. Each of you came through in ways that were neither required nor expected. Some of you spent long, long nights with Jen and me, cutting coroplast (the building material of champions), painting facades, or otherwise helping us build a mighty fine Ghost Town. Others, who seem to have super hero energy levels, got up before the crack of dawn to ensure that the ever-popular Pancake Breakfast was up and running before cowpokes on this campus got too hungry. Some

of you made looking like a bandit look damn good at Western Saloon Night - y'all certainly do justice to a cowboy hat!

It would be impossible to highlight all the help we had, and I'll apologize now for anyone not mentioned - we had so many people just show up, both ready and willing to help out where it was needed most. I cannot stress enough how vital volunteers are to this event. You guys seemed to come out of the woodwork when we needed you most! In total, we had close to 150 volunteers formally signed up as WILD WILD WOW VOLUNTEERS. I know that we also had some big-hearted souls who didn't bother to sign in, they just showed up and helped out whenever and wherever we needed them most.

THANK YOU!

It truly is the volunteers who made WOW 2001 a success.



Alexis Pepin -  
Student Activities Coordinator

COLUMBIA  BREWERY

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# WILD WILD WOW

## THANK YOU!

The Students' Union would like to say good bye to Katherine Huising and thank her for her contributions to campus life here at the UofA.

Katherine has been with the Students' Union in various capacities since about 1987, and has been a dynamic force in our Entertainment & Programming Department since 1989.

Katherine's contributions have set the direction of programming and innovation at the UofA. She's worked with many groups of students and has entertained ideas of ice rinks to raves. Her contributions to the Inner City Kids Christmas and AntiFreeze have helped create traditions that play an integral part of our campus calendar.

It is, with a great deal of excitement that we wish Katherine all the best and many successes in her future endeavors.

We wish you the best!



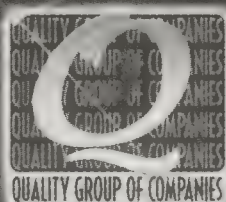
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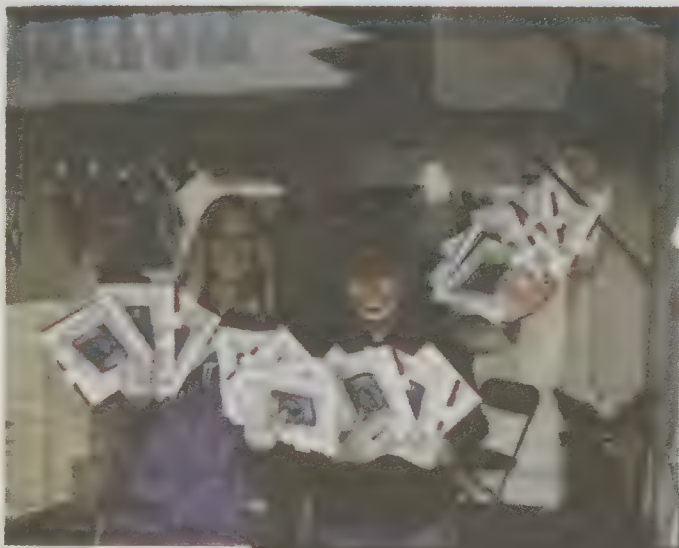
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# WILD WILD WOVN



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**Smile!**



**a microphone...**



**Dr. Doug Ogram does breakfast  
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**a guitar...**



**a rocking party!**

**Body heat anyone?**





# WILD WILD WOW

Photos by Marcus Dege



Bring it on!



Some stand and some fall!

Where's Guba? I can't find him.



Beer?



WOW Headquarters with cool coepoke folk.



Where are my pants??

...check you ankles. (nice undies)



Wild Wild WOW!



Congo, congo, congo!



Don't you wish you were here?



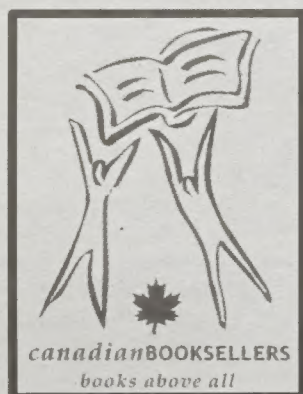
# WILD WILD WOW

A 2001 & PRODUCTION



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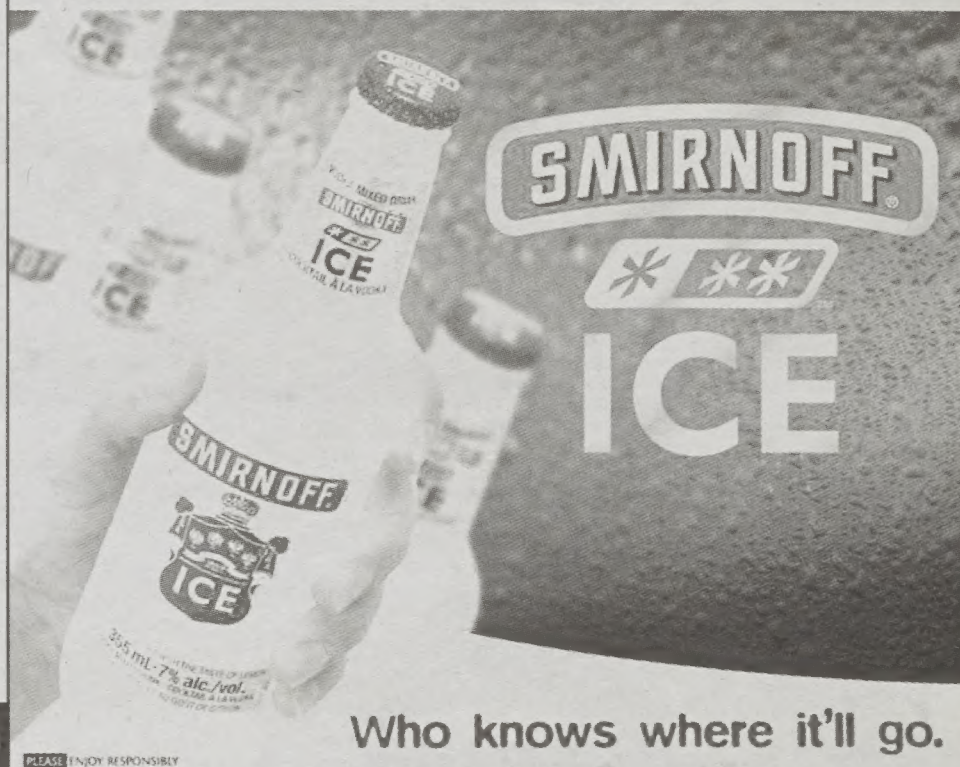
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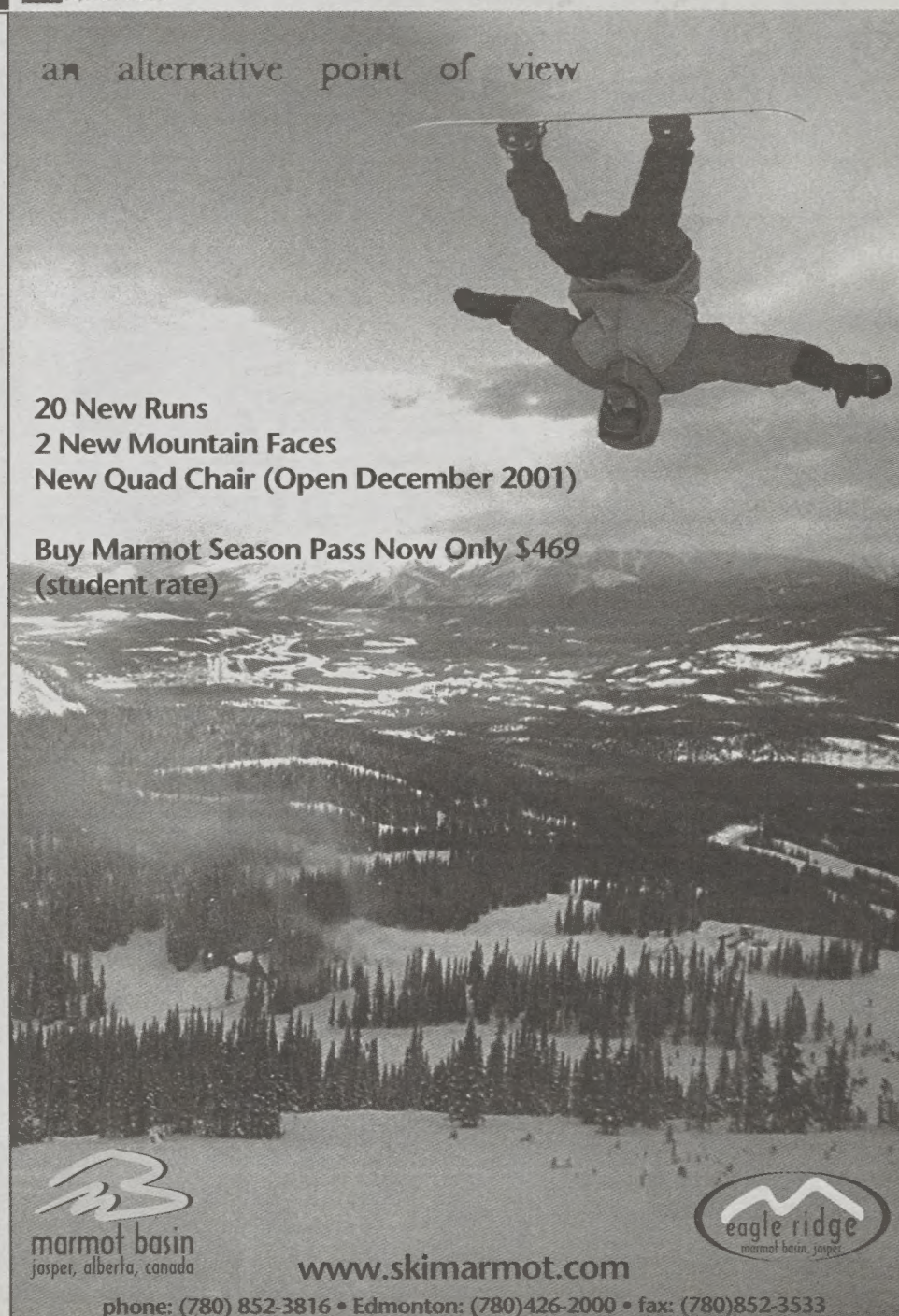
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# WILD WILD WOW

## The Following People have won PRIZES!

### Passport Prizes:

Stereo – Amelia Leung

### Mixed Bag of Tricks (various prizes – cool stuff!)

– Augusta Acquah

– Bethany Olson

– Dave Kachman

– Tricia Bray

– Nicholas Leung

### Taste of the U Winners

#### Team #6 – The Rust Rangers

Shannon Brooks

Jana Slagorsky

Joanna Ranson

Angela Fairgrieve

Laura Chittick

Alison Hardy

Larisa Long

Maryanne Spady

John Sandmaier

Paul Ignatiuk

Lee Satveit

## Congratulations!

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If you have any questions – please contact Jennifer Wanke.

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## WOW COORDINATORS 2001

**CARLA:**



Wild Wild WOW - What an experience!!!! Being involved in WOW this year gave me the opportunity to meet so many awesome people. I never realized how much incredibly fun stuff that WOW offered to students. I think that my favorite part was doing prize patrol. I got to make people do stupid stuff and may have even taught them a thing or two about university (ie.: Who is the SU president? - the guy with the hair). And who doesn't like free stuff right? We even had great weather for the sleeping bag drive-in. Sadly, this is my third year and the first that I actually did WOW activities. It was so much fun, I miss it already!!!

**TRAVIS:**



WOW indeed - what a week! I believe that I speak for all of the WOW Coordinators this year when I say that we had a blast, and from the wonderful responses that I received, I can tell that you did as well. It has been a sincere honour to work with Jen, Alexis, and the coordinators, as well as all of the fantastic volunteers - we couldn't have done it without you. And at the end of the day it was a treat to take off the cowboy hat and boots, realizing that pizza has become my new diet, I have to get up in four hours, and that I'm having the time of my life. It was a WILD WILD week, and I loved every minute of it.

**LEAH:**



Cowboy hats...Ghost Town...Walkie Talkies...Big Winnings at Black Jack...Spending the big winnings at the auction...Cozy at the Sleeping Bag Drive-In...Grooving to the Hi-Phonics...Meeting David Usher...Beer Gardens...Cool Prizes...Back to school excitement...Big Smiles...Happy Students... These are just a few tidbits that made the U of A's Week of Welcome (WOW) 2001 memorable. It was a privilege to be one of the Wild Wild WOW coordinators. I had the pleasure of working with a lot of great people, which made preparing and organizing the events truly enjoyable. I hope all of you were able to take advantage of the fun and capture some of the fantastic memories. Your smiles make our efforts worthwhile.

**MARIEL:**



What can I say about pancakes, sausages, and coffee? I didn't really do anything - the awesome volunteers did it all! About 30 of the best volunteers EVER came out on both chilly mornings to help cook, clean, and make sure over 1000 of the U of A's staff and students got a nice warm breakfast. If you were at the breakfast during WOW, you probably saw me bundled up in my gold cowboy hat and huddling by a griddle trying to keep warm. What else can I say? Pancakes are fun! Thank you volunteers! Have a good year, y'all!

**DAVID:**



More than just an expression of how I felt that entire week, WOW was a great start to another year at the U of A. I think I was supposed to be helping Leah with handbooks, but I also dabbled in many other areas of WOW. Pretty much wherever they needed to tear something down, or build something, or attach part A to part B, I was there with energy. My favorite memory was rescuing some coordinators from the freight elevator in SUB. The look that the bookstore lady gave me as I tried to bash the end of the protruding bolt with a display stand was priceless.

**DAN:**



WOW! I'm a slave to Jen Wanke When thinking about Week of Welcome (WOW), the song lyrics to the song My Way by Limp Bizkit come to mind. Specifically, the words "Jen's Way or the Highway." Now this is not to say that Jen Wanke is a slave driver...by no means am I trying to say that, but Jen gets these fantastic images of the perfect WOW in her head and she has to ensure that all goes well. They usually do. Through Jen's amazing supervision and all of her amazing hard work, everything seems to come together. So, when it is eleven o'clock at night and you are covered in paint, Jen let's you know that you did a great job and that she is truly appreciative. Week of Welcome is a month or two of torture for four days of fun, but boy is it worth it. Thanks to Jen, Alexis, and all you other WOW Freaks. You made my time of WOWing a truly amazing experience. P.S. Saying "I was hypnotized" is a valid excuse!

**DEB:**

Hey, baby, you wanna...shine my shoes? This is the Shine Queen and yes, that's what we did on Saturday, September 8, 2001, and what's more, we had FUN! Over 500 woke up early for the traditional pancake breakfast, and the cool t-shirts, enthusiastic speakers, and awesome prizes motivated them to raise over \$16,000 for cystic fibrosis research in just a few hours that day, with final donations over \$18,000!!! Other fun stuff that day included shining the gleaming pate of one of our illustrious police officers, crazy games led by the irrepressible, blue-haired Nicole, and the occasional Jelly Belly fight. Three cheers for the U of A Students' Union and WILD WILD WOW!!!

**DALE:**



100 words from the Handbook Jockey Handbooks provided some adventure this year. We practiced just-in-time delivery during Orientation when they arrived in time to pull them into Quad and give them to Orientation participants as they walked by. During Wild Wild WOW the handbooks made their usual appearance at info tents and all information desks. They went fast and furiously for three days but we still have some left. If you would like a handbook, you can pick one up at your convenience at the information desk in SUB, HUB, or CAB.

**SAM:**



What can I say? This year's Week of Welcome was crazy! From the perspective of a coordinator, I could not have asked to have more fun during that first week of school; even though none of us really slept, it was definitely twenty-four amusement-filled hours every single day. Thanks to all the volunteers who made it a success, and honestly, made it so that we could sleep (sometimes).

**CHRIS:**



Do you remember good-looking people walking around with radios during Week of Welcome? They were probably WOW coordinators. From early mornings at the pancake breakfast, to late nights at the Plant and the Sleeping Bag Drive-In, Week of Welcome was bustling with activity...which left little room for class/sleep! It all cumulated with seeing David Usher live in concert (Girls, for your information, he's not THAT good-looking in person). Thanks to everybody who came out and participated in the madness. Special thanks to the WOW team - y'all are prodigious. Oh, and by the way, the radios were unbelievably fun.

**JOE:**



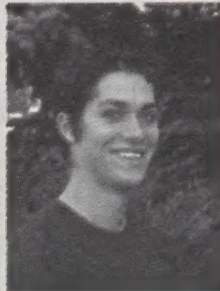
This year had everything, awesome sausages, a kick ass WOW Dance, and a killer ghost town. This year's activities also included a hypnotist who crushed the reputations of many by making them do some "interesting things." I love seeing all my friends on the first day at school at the happiest place on earth, the Beer Gardens. Helping to organize and run these activities was a lot of work, but it was worth it. The coordinators know how to have a great time. By the way, how many people know that three of us got stuck in an elevator?

**LEAH:**



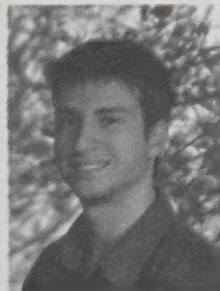
Another year, another fabulous Week of Welcome. I spent most of my time in the booths at the LRT and QUAD making sure that students received their handbooks. I am grateful to all the dedicated volunteers who helped with the booths and made sure that everything ran smoothly. The evening events were definitely a highlight for me. My favorite one was the saloon night. The Power Plant looked picture perfect with all the gamblers dressed in their western wear. I had a blast with the WOW Planning Committee this year. You guys are fantastic. If I remember anything from WILD WILD WOW it will be this: Ghost Town + costumes + crazy energy + friends = fun.

**MAT:**



If you have ever needed some inspiration to do more than you really have time for, take a look at the WOW Committee. In a week I saw a small group of dedicated people create a town, run a saloon, have a big screen drive-in, drink beer gardens dry, and give out a ton of free stuff. Now imagine the kind of stress relief you could justify indulging...hence the WOW Dance. My philosophy is work hard and play hard. I think that this amazing group did a little more of the first, so that everybody got a little more of the second. And, WOW, was it good.

**MARINO:**



Alright, now I just wanted to start by saying this university has amazing volunteers!! If we didn't have these people we wouldn't be anywhere. That to me is the best thing about WOW. I enjoyed meeting so many laid back people who were willing to do anything from handing out handbooks to taking people around campus for Taste of the U. But my favorite moment was when Mariel and Leah were body taping in HQ. I'll never forget "bum" taped on my ass. The concert was great. The western theme really worked, all the little things, like the posters to the passports, were some nice touches. So that's what I'll take as my memories of WOW.